



Inspection Report

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL SCHOOL
55 LAKE AVENUE NORTH
WORCESTER, MA 01655

Customer ID: **130**

Certificate: **14-R-0035**

Site: 001

UNIV. OF MASS. MEDICAL
CENTER

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 13-AUG-2024

2.31(d)(1)(ii)

Repeat

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

IACUC approved Protocols #0020, #0028, and #0084 did not provide a written narrative description of the methods and sources used to determine that alternatives were not available to a procedure that may cause more than momentary pain or distress to the animals that is included in each of the protocols (vascular cutdown).

Per this Section, whenever a proposal for animal use contains procedures that may cause more than momentary pain or distress to the animals, the IACUC shall determine that: (1) the principal investigator has considered alternatives to those procedures and (2) that the principal investigator has provided a written narrative description of the methods and sources used to determine that alternatives were not available. These requirements ensure that all procedures contained in the protocol minimize discomfort, distress, and pain to the animals. The IACUC needs to address this item.

2.38(f)(1)

Miscellaneous.

Two hamsters assigned to Protocol #0071 were not handled as carefully as possible by research staff on 5/30/24. Research staff were performing the procedure of transferring group-housed hamsters from their home enclosure to a second enclosure set-up for overnight fecal collection (an approximately 16-hour period). After the animals were transferred, the fecal collection enclosures containing the transferred hamsters were placed on top of the home enclosures (the wire tops of the home enclosures had been removed). The next morning, husbandry staff discovered that two hamsters had been left inside in their home cage overnight (two separate home cages had one hamster). The two hamsters left in their home cages had access to food and bedding but did not have access to water during the 16-hour overnight period. In addition, the home cages of the two hamsters during the overnight period had an interior height less than the 6" specified in Section 3.28 (c)(2)(ii) and did not provide sufficient space for the hamsters to make normal postural adjustments. Husbandry staff immediately contacted veterinary staff and moved the two hamsters to a new enclosure with a water bottle. A veterinarian evaluated both hamsters and determined that the animals were hydrated, were in good health without any observable signs of distress, and no treatment was indicated.

Per this Section, the handling of animals by all personnel, including research staff, should be done as carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause behavioral stress or unnecessary discomfort. The failure of research staff to

Prepared By: PAULA GLADUE

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:

14-AUG-2024

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Received by Title: Attending Veterinarian

Date:

14-AUG-2024



Inspection Report

recognize that not all of the animals housed in an enclosure were transferred to the new enclosure and that two animals remained in their original enclosure is not handling the animals as carefully as possible. As a result of improper handling, the two hamsters did not have access to water for 16 hours and were also housed in an enclosure that did not meet the space requirements for a hamster primary enclosure as per Section 3.28.

The research facility addressed this incident prior to the inspection by implementing corrective measures that included the retraining of investigator staff on animal husbandry practices, implementing additional study procedures, and increased oversight of the laboratory by veterinary staff. To remain corrected from this date 8/14/24 forward.

This inspection was conducted with facility representatives from 8/13/24 through 8/14/24. The exit briefing was held with facility representatives on 8/14/24.

END OF REPORT

Prepared By: PAULA GLADUE
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care
Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Date:
14-AUG-2024

Received by Title: Attending Veterinarian

Date:
14-AUG-2024



Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
130	14-R-0035	001	UNIV. OF MASS. MEDICAL CENTER	13-AUG-2024

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000007	<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>	DOMESTIC FERRET
000122	<i>Mesocricetus auratus</i>	SYRIAN / GOLDEN HAMSTER (COMMON PET/RESEARCH TYPE)
000003	<i>Sus scrofa domestica</i>	DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG
000027	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	DOMESTIC RABBIT / EUROPEAN RABBIT
000003	<i>Ovis aries aries</i>	SHEEP INCLUDING ALL DOMESTIC BREEDS
000162	Total	