



Inspection Report

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
77 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, 3-234
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

Customer ID: **114**

Certificate: **14-R-0018**

Site: 001

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 01-MAR-2023

2.31(d)(1)(iii)

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

Protocol #2210000429 does not contain a written assurance from the principal investigator that the proposed activities do not unnecessarily duplicate previous experiments. The protocol received IACUC approval on December 16th, 2022.

When reviewing proposed activities involving animals, the IACUC must ensure that proposed activities contain written assurance from the investigator that the activities do not unnecessarily duplicate previous experiments.

To be corrected by April 15th, 2023.

2.33(b)(3)

Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care.

Hamsters enrolled on protocol # 2203000011 are housed in individual enclosures in a temperature controlled hibernation chamber during one arm of the study. Observation of hibernating animals for problems of animal health and wellbeing includes monitoring of data from implanted telemetric devices and observation by veterinary staff.

In the evening of December 28th, 2022, one hamster escaped its primary enclosure. This is reflected in the telemetric data by a loss of active data collected cage-side, indicating that the telemetric device was out of range of the enclosure.

Neither research personnel nor veterinary staff noted that the animal was missing until six days later on January 4th, 2023, when veterinary staff observed damage to the enclosure and discovered that the animal was missing from its

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enclosure. On review of data recovered from the device, facility representatives determined that the animal was deceased as of December 29th.

Observations being conducted on the hamsters in this housing arrangement were insufficient to identify that an animal was not present in an enclosure for six days. Per this section of the regulations, all animals must be observed daily to assess their health and well being.

In response to this incident, enclosure security was refined, research personnel have modified the display of telemetric data for easier daily evaluation, and veterinary staff are directly observing each hamster every day. To remain corrected from this date forward.

3.28(a)(1) Critical

Primary enclosures.

Hamsters enrolled on protocol #2203000011 are housed in primary enclosures within a temperature controlled hibernation chamber. New caging was developed for this arm of the study, which included an external clip on one side of the cage to secure the lid in place, but according to facility representatives, on December 28th, 2022, one hamster was able to manipulate the lid enough to get on top of the food hopper area of the enclosure, subsequently chewing through the lid to escape into the chamber. Ultimately, the animal died in the hibernation chamber on December 29th before it could be recovered. The primary enclosure was not sufficiently structurally sound to protect the animal from injury subsequent to its escape.

In response to this incident, the facility modified the chamber and refined enclosure security by ensuring both sides of the lid are secured tightly to the enclosure to prevent escape or injury. To remain corrected from this date forward.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with facility representatives.

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Species Inspected

| Cust No | Cert No | Site | Site Name | Inspection |
|---------|-----------|------|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| 114 | 14-R-0018 | 001 | MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY | 01-MAR-2023 |

| Count | Scientific Name | Common Name |
|--------|------------------------------|---|
| 000297 | <i>Callithrix jacchus</i> | COMMON MARMOSET |
| 000074 | <i>Macaca mulatta</i> | RHESUS MACAQUE |
| 000009 | <i>Sus scrofa domestica</i> | DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG |
| 000002 | <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i> | DOMESTIC RABBIT / EUROPEAN RABBIT |
| 000002 | <i>Meriones unguiculatus</i> | MONGOLIAN GERBIL (COMMON PET / RESEARCH VARIETY) |
| 000867 | <i>Peromyscus leucopus</i> | WHITE-FOOTED MOUSE |
| 000004 | <i>Tupaia belangeri</i> | NORTHERN TREE SHREW |
| 000088 | <i>Mesocricetus auratus</i> | SYRIAN / GOLDEN HAMSTER |
| 001343 | Total | |