Inspection Report

University of North Texas Health Science Center

Department of Lab Animal Medicine
3500 CAMP BOWIE BLVD
FORT WORTH, TX 76107

Customer ID: **1502**

Certificate: **74-R-0081**

Site: 001
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 16-JUL-2024

2.31(c)(7) Critical

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

Significant changes were made to contracted research organization protocol 2023-0036 without Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) review and approval, resulting in the death of 4 rabbits. The protocol states that a medication to induce type 1 diabetes would be given intraperitoneal (IP), after which, rabbits would be monitored twice daily with blood glucose checks for 5 days, and insulin administered as needed based on results. On 4/9/24, 9 rabbits were administered the induction medication intravenously (IV) between 9:25am and 11:28am. All rabbits were observed to be doing well at 12:30pm. High doses of sub-cutaneous (SQ) glucose were then administered at 2:30pm, 6:30pm, and 10:30pm. No glucose checks were performed. Rabbit #2457 was found dead at 8:30am on 4/10/24. Rabbit #2453 was found unresponsive at 8:30am on 4/10/24, presumed hypoglycemic but without a blood glucose check to confirm, and administered a high dose of SQ glucose before being found dead at 10:30am. Rabbits #2454 and #2455 were administered additional doses of glucose at 9:30am on 4/10/24. Rabbit #2454 was found dead 4/14/24. Rabbit # 2455 was found obtunded at 8:50am on 4/16/24; at 9:30am, glucose reading was "HIGH" and the rabbit died at 9:40am. Presumptive cause of death for all rabbits was diabetic shock. After suspending the protocol, the remaining 5 rabbits were stabilized with IV fluids and insulin. Several unapproved significant changes likely contributed to the death of the 4 rabbits.
1. The induction medication was administered by a different route than approved (IV instead of IP).
2. Twice daily monitoring of blood glucose for 5 days after induction was not done as indicated in the protocol.
3. Glucose administration was not approved in the protocol.
4. Insulin was never given as indicated in the protocol.
Failure to follow the approved protocol and making unapproved changes does not allow the IACUC to review these changes as required and ensure the animals involved do not experience negative impacts to their health and well-being. The IACUC must ensure that all significant changes regarding the care and use of animals in ongoing activities are reviewed and approved prior to implementation.
Corrected prior to the time of inspection on 7/16/24.

2.31(d)(5)

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

Rabbit #2395 was used in imaging procedures on January 22 and 23, 2024, under an expired protocol for a contracted research organization. The protocol was reviewed and approved by the IACUC Jan 4, 2021 and expired Jan 4, 2024. All animal activities must be completely reviewed and approved by the IACUC no less than every 3 years to ensure

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USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

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compliance with the regulations, consistency with internal animal welfare SOPS, and that activities are not unnecessarily duplicative, and new alternatives do not exist. Corrected prior to the time of inspection on 7/16/24.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with the attending veterinarian.

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United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Customer: 1502
Inspection Date: 16-Jul-2024

Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
1502	74-R-0081	001	UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER	16-JUL-2024

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000005	*Oryctolagus cuniculus*	DOMESTIC RABBIT / EUROPEAN RABBIT
000009	*Sus scrofa domestica*	DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG
000014	**Total**	