

### United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

CJERNIGAN INS-0001065450

#### **Inspection Report**

Experimentica Ltd 3500 Camp Bowie Blvd Fort Worth, TX 76107 Customer ID: 6010250

Certificate: 74-R-0240

Site: 001

Experimentica Ltd

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 16-JUL-2024

#### 2.32(a) Critical

#### Personnel qualifications.

A scientist and his laboratory group lacked appropriate training to follow approved animal activities as written, which led to the death of 4 rabbits and the use of a fifth rabbit in an expired protocol.

The first protocol was written by a scientist that left the company so another scientist took over the activity. It 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), after which, high doses of sub-cutaneous (SQ) glucose were then administered 3-4 times over the next 24 hours. 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. 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. The scientist did not follow the protocol as written, notably:

- 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.

The scientist lacked the appropriate knowledge of this protocol to conduct animal activities consistent with its approval.

Rabbit #2395 was used in imaging studies under an expired protocol on Jan 22 and 23, 2024. The protocol had expired on Jan 4, 2024 and had not been renewed. The scientist or his staff lacked the appropriate training to accurately identify active protocols or what should be done when a protocol approval expires.

It is imperative that personnel working with animals in research have adequate training, knowledge, and qualifications to perform their duties so that animals are not harmed by inexperienced or unknowledgeable staff.

Corrected prior to the time inspection on 7/16/24.

Prepared By: COURTNEY JERNIGAN

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL

Date:
17-JUL-2024

OFFICER

**OFFICER** 

Received by Title: Facility Representative Date:

17-JUL-2024



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This inspection and exit interview were conducted with the principal investigator.

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USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

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Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL

**OFFICER** 

Date:

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# **Species Inspected**

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
6010250	74-R-0240	001	Experimentica Ltd	16-JUL-2024

Count **Scientific Name Common Name** 000044

Oryctolagus cuniculus DOMESTIC RABBIT / EUROPEAN RABBIT

Total 000044