



## Inspection Report

University Of Tennessee - Memphis  
Office Of Animal Care And Use  
910 Madison Avenue Suite 650  
Memphis, TN 38163

Customer ID: **841**

Certificate: **63-R-0107**

Site: 001

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE - MEMPHIS

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 12-FEB-2020

### 2.33(a)(2) CRITICAL

#### ATTENDING VETERINARIAN AND ADEQUATE VETERINARY CARE.

The research facility did not assure that the attending veterinarian had appropriate authority to ensure the provision of adequate veterinary care for multiple piglets studied under Protocol 18-021.0 Version 4. The following procedures were performed by the investigators on piglets experiencing health issues without consultation, approval, or oversight of the attending veterinarian or designee:

Gas anesthesia was used to replace feeding tubes on 03/27/19 for piglet 1-3 and piglet 1-4.

Piglet 1-10 underwent gas anesthesia for replacement of a feeding tube on 03/25/19, 03/27/19, and 03/28/19.

Piglet 2-5 was given a blood transfusion on 04/15/19. This piglet died 1 hour later.

In addition, during a conversation with the attending veterinarian the attending veterinarian stated that one of the clinical veterinarians observed one of the piglets in distress during her rounds. The clinical veterinarian directed the investigators to euthanize the piglet immediately due to its poor condition and suffering. The investigator argued with the clinical veterinarian and did not euthanize the piglet as directed.

Multiple instances occurred under Protocol 18-021.0 Version 4 involving piglets in which information on problems of animal health were not communicated in a timely manner to the attending veterinarian or designee. The following piglets exhibited acute health issues. A veterinarian was not contacted in any of these instances. In each case the piglet died despite interventions initiated by the laboratory staff without veterinary input.

13 piglets were involved in Cohort 1, which began on 03/22/19. On 03/26/19, piglet 1-8 was observed to be weak and lethargic. The piglet clinically deteriorated and died 3 hours later. On the evening of 03/23/19, piglet 1-13 was observed to have poor circulation. The piglet died one hour later. On the evening of 03/23/19, piglet 1-7 was observed to have poor circulation and weakness. The piglet died one hour later.

13 piglets were involved in Cohort 2, which began on 04/12/19. On the morning of 04/15/2019, piglet 2-5 was noted to be lethargic and pale. The piglet was observed to have died 3 hours later. On the morning of 04/14/2019, piglet 2-10 was noted to have respiratory difficulty. In the mid-afternoon the piglet was observed to have severe difficulty breathing. The animal died that evening. On the morning of 04/13/2019, piglet 2-8 was noted to have a weak pulse

Prepared By: CARE DIANA, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:  
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and respiration. The animal died 30 minutes later. On the evening of 04/13/2019, piglet 2-13 was observed to have labored breathing. The animal was observed to be paddling and was discolored. The animal died 3 hours later.

The research facility shall assure that the attending veterinarian has authority to ensure the provision of adequate veterinary care for animals in the protocol in order to minimize pain and distress and to improve health for the research animals. The attending veterinarian has knowledge and expertise in the care and treatment of animals, and must have the authority to recommend and require treatments as necessary to improve animal health and prevent, address, and alleviate animal suffering.

This issue was identified and corrected prior to today's inspection. The protocol is no longer active.

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

### Additional Inspectors

Jernigan Courtney, Veterinary Medical Officer

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## Species Inspected

| Cust No | Cert No   | Site | Site Name                         | Inspection |
|---------|-----------|------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 841     | 63-R-0107 | 001  | UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE - MEMPHIS | 12-FEB-20  |

| Count         | Scientific Name               | Common Name  |
|---------------|-------------------------------|--|
| 000016        | <i>Mesocricetus auratus</i>   | SYRIAN / GOLDEN HAMSTER (COMMON PET/RESEARCH TYPE) |
| 000014        | <i>Peromyscus maniculatus</i> | DEER MOUSE   |
| 000004        | <i>Sus scrofa domestica</i>   | DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG            |
| <b>000034</b> | <b>Total</b>                  |  |