



TUFTS UNIVERSITY

Contractor For
United States Department of Agriculture
Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging

November 18, 1999

Dr. Elizabeth Goldentyer, D.V.M.

Director - Animal Care

APHIS

Eastern Regional Office

920 Main Campus Drive

Suite 200, Unit 3040

Raleigh, NC 27606

Reference: USDA Annual Report (Registration No.: 14-F-0009)

Dear Dr. Goldentyer:

The enclosed documents represent the U.S.D.A. Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts University's "Annual Report of Research Facilities" for the Federal fiscal year, October 1, 1998 through September 30, 1999. Aspects of this report that require comment are:

1) Animals reported under Category E:

- a) Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) was induced in two hundred (200) mice to refine an animal model analogous to the human disease so that therapeutic interventions could be evaluated in future studies. Animals that developed IBD experienced pain/distress analogous to the human rheumatoid arthritis situation.
- b) Pre-malignant cell growth was induced in the colon of fifty-five (55) mice. Although there was no pain associated with these pre-malignant changes, the use of the carcinogen may have been associated with some discomfort related to anorexia.
- c) Mild arthritis was induced in forty (40) rats as an animal model of arthritis. Body composition, cytokine production and measurements of physiological aging were made before, during and after the development of the inflammatory process. Animals that developed arthritis experienced pain/distress analogous to the human rheumatoid arthritis situation.

Should you have any questions regarding the report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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