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# Inspection Report

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL

Customer ID: 107

Certificate: 14-R-0019

Site: 002

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL PRIMATE CENTER

HARVARD CENTER FOR COMPARATIVE MEDICINE

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: Dec-12-2011

BOSTON, MA 02115

2.38 (f) (1) MISCELLANEOUS.

Section 2.38 (f) (1) states - \* Handling of all animals shall be done as expeditiously and carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause trauma, overheating, excessive cooling, behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort. \*

1. Pertaining to Protocol # 04771: In October 2011 an NHP escaped from its enclosure while a member of the research staff was removing the animal from the enclosure in order to bring the NHP to another room for a short duration awake imaging procedure. The NHP was caught by the staff member using a hand-held net and the animal then underwent the imaging procedure as described in the approved protocol. Upon returning the NHP to the primary enclosure right after the imaging was completed, the staff member noticed that the animal was not moving and he/she contacted the clinical veterinarian who immediately came to evaluate the animal and determined that the NHP had died.

Per this Section, all animals should be handled by scientists, research technicians, and animal technicians as expeditiously and carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort to ensure the health and well-being of the animals.

Immediately following the incident, the clinical veterinarian notified the Attending Veterinarian and the IACUC; the IACUC then reported the incident to federal agencies including USDA. A subcommittee of IACUC members was formed to conduct an investigation of the incident and to determine appropriate corrective actions.

The IACUC subcommittee has proposed (and the IACUC has approved) the implementation of additional procedures as well as modifications to the research protocol to ensure that another incident does not occur, and the clinical veterinarian has provided additional instruction to and re-training of the research staff member.

The research facility has taken appropriate steps to address and correct this item as soon as the IACUC and AV were notified of the incident. The details of this incident are undergoing further review by the Eastern Regional Office.

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3.80 (a) (1)

### PRIMARY ENCLOSURES.

Section 3.80 (a) (1) states - " Primary enclosures must be designed and constructed of suitable materials so that they are structurally sound for the species of nonhuman primates contained in them. They must be kept in good repair."

- Pen C35: The approximately 4 inch wide horizontal molding strip located along the bottom of the right wall of the
  pen had been pulled away from the wall by the NHPs. As a result, half of the length of the molding strip was no
  longer secured to the wall and faced into the pen.
- Pens C34 and C35: There were several areas of flaking paint noted on the ceilings directly above the pens.
- There was a broken weld to top of one of the vertical metal bars in the right corner of the back wall of the enclosure housing NHP #28-06. As a result of the broken weld, the top of the metal bar was no longer attached to the frame of the enclosure.

Per this Section, primary enclosures for NHPs should be structurally sound and maintained in good repair for the health of the animals and to protect them from injury. The Registrant corrected this item during the inspection by: 1. re-securing the entire length of molding strip to the wall of pen C35; 2. removing the areas of flaking paint from the ceiling of pens C34 and C35; and 3. transferring NHP #28-06 to a new enclosure.

3.80 (b) (2) (i) REPEAT

#### PRIMARY ENCLOSURES.

Section 3.80 (b) (2) (i) states - "The minimum space that must be provided to each nonhuman primate, whether housed individually or with other nonhuman primates, will be determined by the typical weight of animals of its species.....and will be calculated by using the following table: NHPs weighing 10-15 kg (22.0-33.0 lbs) require 6.0 square feet."

 NHP #346-09 was housed in a primary enclosure that provided less than the minimum space as required per this Section. The NHP weighed 10.5 kg and the primary enclosure provided 4.3 square feet of space. The minimum amount of floor space required for a 10.5 kg NHP is 6.0 square feet.

Per this Section of the Regulations, NHPs must be provided with a minimum amount of space for their health and well-being as determined by their weight according to the table in this Section. The Registrant corrected this item during the inspection by moving the NHP to a different enclosure that provided the correct amount of space for its weight.

3.80 (b) (2) (iv)

#### PRIMARY ENCLOSURES.

Section 3.80 (b) (2) (iv) states - "When more than one nonhuman primate is housed in a primary enclosure, the minimum space requirement for the enclosure is the sum of the minimum floor area space required for each

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individual nonhuman primate in the table in paragraph (b)(2)(i) of this section."

There were 5 pairs of socially housed NHPs (each weighing between 3 and 10 kg) that were housed in primary
enclosures that provided less than the minimum space required per this Section. Each primary enclosure provided
6.0 square feet of space; however 4.3 square feet of space is required for each NHP in this weight range when two
animals are housed in the same primary enclosure (a minimum of 8.6 square feet is required).

Per this Section of the Regulations, when more than one NHP is housed in a primary enclosure, the minimum space requirement for the enclosure is the sum of the minimum space required as determined by weight of each NHP according to the table in this Section. The Registrant corrected this item during the inspection by moving the 5 pairs of NHPs to different enclosures that provided the correct amount of space for each animal.

3.81 (c) (2)

### ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT TO PROMOTE PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING.

Section 3.81 (c) (2) states - \* Special considerations. Certain nonhuman primates must be provided special attention regarding enhancement of their environment, based on the needs of the individual species and in accordance with the instructions of the attending veterinarian. Nonhuman primates requiring special attention are the following:

(2) Those that show signs of being in psychological distress through behavior or appearance. \*\*

- The following NHPs (NHP #56-11; NHP #62-11; NHP #142-05) were noted to have areas of patchy hairloss on their extremities and/or bodies that can be a sign present in an animal being in psychological distress. There was no indication that the current appearance of the animals' haircoat identified by the APHIS inspector had been previously noted by facility personnel.
- 2. NHP #192-05 was noted to exhibit unusual behaviors (licking tail excessively, placing arm/hand in front of face, and frequent scratching) that can be signs present in an animal being in psychological distress. In addition, there was some reddening of the skin and some patchy hair loss noted on the limbs and tail. There was no indication that the current unusual behaviors and appearance of the animal identified by the APHIS inspector had been previously noted by facility personnel.

Per this Section of the Regulations, NHPs exhibiting signs of being in psychological distress through behavior or appearance must be provided with special attention regarding enhancement of their environment based on the needs of the individual species. The Registrant corrected this item during the inspection by members of the veterinary staff performing a behavioral and veterinary medical assessment of each NHP and then developing an individualized treatment plan to provide each animal with additional special attention.

NOTE - Inspection was conducted from 12/12/11 to 12/13/11. Exit interview held 12/16/11 with facility personnel at Site 001 of the Registrant. END OF REPORT.

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