



April 17, 2025

Brent Morse, DVM
Director
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

Via e-mail: morseb@mail.nih.gov

Dear Dr. Morse:

I am writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and our more than 9 million members and supporters to request that your office investigate possible noncompliance with the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (PHS Policy) and the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (the *Guide*) related to the treatment of animals at the Oregon National Primate Research Center, Oregon Health & Science University's (OHSU; PHS-Approved Animal Welfare Assurance #D16-00195) West Campus, located at 505 NW 185th Ave. in Beaverton, Oregon.

According to [an inspection report dated March 4, 2025](#), and posted last week by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), a young Japanese macaque died a painful death from sepsis after her symptoms were ignored and she was denied necessary medical care. The report also details that dozens of other Japanese macaques were confined for approximately 96 hours in cages that failed to meet the minimum space requirements mandated by the Animal Welfare Act and its implementing regulations. Inspectors noted that “several animals appeared too large for the enclosures they were housed in.” Additionally, areas confining rhesus macaques were described as rusted, unsanitary, and in a state of disrepair.

It appears to us that the issues raised in the USDA's report—specifically, the failure “to ensure that timely and accurate information is conveyed to the responsible veterinarian about issues associated with animal health, behavior, and well-being, and that appropriate treatment or euthanasia is administered”;¹ the failure to “provide sufficient space ... required to meet [animals'] physical, physiologic, and behavioral needs”;² and the failure to ensure that “enclosures [are] kept in good repair to prevent escape of or injury to animals, promote physical comfort, and facilitate sanitation and servicing”³—indicate noncompliance with PHS Policy and the *Guide*. Moreover, it does not appear that OHSU self-reported these lapses to OLAW.

We urge your office to thoroughly investigate the failures detailed in the USDA inspection report and assess whether OHSU has complied with its obligation to

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- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA Switzerland
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (U.K.)

¹ National Research Council, *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*, 8th ed. (Washington, DC: National Academies Press, 2011), 106.

² National Research Council, *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*, 8th ed. (Washington, DC: National Academies Press, 2011), 50.

³ National Research Council, *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*, 8th ed. (Washington, DC: National Academies Press, 2011), 51.

self-report problems in its laboratories. Prompt and decisive action is warranted to address these apparent violations and to help prevent future lapses in oversight and animal welfare.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy Meyer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Amy" being more prominent than the last name "Meyer".

Amy Meyer
Associate Director of Primate Experimentation Campaigns
Laboratory Investigations Department
People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals