

February 15, 2007

Carolyn M. Black, Ph.D.  
Director, Scientific Resources Program  
National Center for Infectious Diseases  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
1600 Clifton Road, N.E., MS:C17  
Atlanta, GA 30333

Dear Dr. Black:

The Council on Accreditation of the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC International) has reviewed the report of the recent site visit to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, Georgia. The Council commends you and the staff for providing and maintaining an exemplary program of laboratory animal care and use. Especially noteworthy were the strong institutional support, as evidenced by the senior leadership of CDC communicating to the entire staff that improvement of the animal care and use program was the highest priority for the CDC; committing over three million dollars in improvements to the animal care and use program since the 2005 site visit; approving 18 FTE for the animal care and use program, to include many key positions which supported the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) as well as veterinary medical care and husbandry; aggressively and quickly correcting all issues from the 2005 site visit; and conveying an emphasis from the highest level of the organization that the CDC is committed to a culture of compliance for the animal care and use program. Other specific areas that were commendable included the exceptional medical records for all species; the excellent care and management programs for chimpanzees and other primates; the development and implementation of an exceptional program for monitoring the use of controlled drugs; implementing an exemplary environmental enrichment program that included all species; developing a model program for providing monoclonal antibodies to investigators; and developing innovative strategies for veterinary medical records management and the management of IACUC animal use protocols. The Council is pleased to inform you that the program conforms with AAALAC International standards as set forth by the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, NRC 1996. Therefore, **FULL ACCREDITATION** shall continue.

Council acknowledges receipt of your correspondence dated November 9, 2006 detailing prompt actions taken relative to concerns expressed by the site visitors during the exit briefing. Specifically, the items included: implementing enhanced environmental monitoring and control of some animal holding rooms; including all personnel that enter animal facilities in the risk assessment component of the occupational health and safety program; repairing the rack washer; changing the disinfectant used in the nonhuman primate area; enhancing pest control measures in some rooms; purchasing a HEPA filtered vacuum cleaner for one facility; improving practices in the labeling of sterilization packs; and improving some performance standards.

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Council has no further recommendations to offer for improvement of the animal care and use program at this time. We look forward to following your program activities and wish you continued success.

AAALAC International requires an annual report detailing changes made during the year in accredited units. In the interim, AAALAC International expects to be apprised in a timely manner of significant programmatic changes or concerns should they occur. Please note that, at your request, AAALAC International will provide your institution with a separate letter simply verifying that your animal care and use program is accredited.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale G. Martin", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Dale G. Martin, D.V.M., Ph.D.

President, Council on Accreditation

DGM:cmw

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cc: (name redacted)