INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE (IACUC).

(d) IACUC review of activities involving animals. 1) In order to approve proposed activities or proposed significant changes in ongoing activities, the IACUC shall conduct a review of those components of the activities related to the care and use of animals and determine that the proposed activities are in accordance with this subchapter unless acceptable justification for a departure is presented in writing; (i) Procedures involving animals will avoid or minimize discomfort, distress, and pain to the animals;

Two of the animal records and protocols that were reviewed during this inspection indicated that the animals were in avoidable distress and discomfort.

Animal Number V000335 was assigned to a food restriction protocol. Records for this animal showed aggressive implant/skin margin cleaning, differing antibiotics, and supplemental nutrition. The weight of the animal near the start of the study was 9.65 kgs (March 2007) and the weight of the animal at the time of this inspection was 7.12 kgs. (25% weight loss). The veterinarian removed this animal from the food restriction portion of the protocol at 10-15% of weight loss but allowed the primary investigator of the research study to continue to manage the diet of the animal. This animal was also being treated for a chronic infection of the soft tissue of the skull caused by a surgical procedure. The description in the record of this animal indicated a malodor coming from the area of the cranial implants. It was also noted in the records a problem with the temporomandibular joint. It was later determined by the investigator that there was a possible fibrosis of the muscles surrounding the mandible. This animal continued working for food supplements in the restraint chair for the purpose of collecting protocol related data. Animal Number MMU 35184 is another animal identified during this inspection described atopic and severely pruritic. The records of both animals indicate a distress and discomfort while continued use for the collection of data for research. Animals that have chronic infections directly related to the surgical procedures associated with the study and a severe weight loss of undetermined cause, or as in the case of the other animal, atopic and severely pruritic indicates animals that may be distressed and discomforted. It is the IACUC’s responsibility to assure that distress and discomfort are addressed in research animals. The IACUC should have in concert with the veterinarian determined if these two animals were distressed and/or discomforted and made efforts to correct their conditions prior to allowing the continuance of their use as research subjects. There were records indicating notification to the IACUC.
that one animal would be removed from food restriction for weight loss but no action taken, even with the investigators continued use by feeding the animal in the restraint chair. There were no records of IACUC involvement/intervention or review of these animals for distress and discomfort and it is their responsibility to ensure the avoidance of pain, distress and discomfort as per this section of the regulations.

Correct by May 30, 2008

3.75 (a)
HOUSING FACILITIES, GENERAL.

(a) Structure: construction. Housing facilities for nonhuman primates must be designed and constructed so that they are structurally sound for the species of nonhuman primates housed in them. They must be kept in good repair, and they must protect the animals from injury, contain the animals securely, and restrict other animals from entering.

Animal MMU 35184 has a history of getting extremities caught in different areas of the primary enclosure. There were 4 instances of this animal having extremities trapped in the last 3 years. The most recent occurrence was in February 2008 when the left arm or the animal was trapped in a small area on the front corner of the primary enclosure. There has been no adjustment or alteration to the animal enclosure at the time of this inspection to prevent recurrence.
Correct by May 15, 2008.