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Fall 2011 Research Summary

18 December 2011

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The 24 research mice were received on September 29, 2011. Twelve of these mice were normal, and the other half were Apo-E deficient mice. (Note that the number of APO-E mice is double what we put in our original budget)

Upon their arrival, the mice were weighed. The mice were separated by gender and by strain. Three mice were placed in each of 6 cages and fed water and a normal diet. Half of the mice were scheduled to exercise, while the other half served as a control.

On October 10, 2011 the group of mice that were exercising, swam for 15 minutes. This was a preliminary exercise to get the mice used to swimming. All mice were successful in completing this preliminary exercise. Also on this date, the mice were switched to a High Fat Diet for the remainder of the trial.

For six weeks, the mice that were subjected to the swimming protocol swam. Each week, the mice had a specific time to swim. Four minutes were added to the swimming protocol at the start of a new week. Each week the mice were weighed, fed, and they were given water. Their bedding area was cleaned every week.

At the end of this portion of the research project, the mice were sacrificed by injection with Anesthesia. Their blood and hearts were taken for sampling. They will be looked at in the next portion of the research project.

As of December, all of the funds awarded have been spent because of the need to purchase more animals than originally budgeted for.