

CLOSEOUT FOR M97100035

This case came to OIG on October 23, 1997, when [REDACTED] NSF's Division Director for [REDACTED] informed us that he had received a complaint from Ms. [REDACTED] (the complainant) concerning possible abuse of human subjects who had participated in research studies. The subject of the complaint was Dr. [REDACTED], a researcher at the [REDACTED] (the university).

The complainant alleged that the subject did not help her obtain medical records and information that were relevant to the complainant and that related to the complainant's participation in the subject's research. The complainant also alleged that other university officials were rude to her when she tried to obtain information from them.

The complainant presented no evidence or allegation that the alleged abuse of a research participant involved research funded by NSF. According to NSF records, NSF has never funded the subject's research. OIG has jurisdiction only over misconduct that occurs "in proposing, carrying out or reporting results from activities funded by NSF" (45 C.F.R. §689.1(a)(1)) and therefore lacks jurisdiction over the allegations in this case. Lacking jurisdiction, we had no reason to decide whether the alleged facts were accurate or, if accurate, would constitute evidence of misconduct in science.

This inquiry is closed and no further action will be taken on this case.

cc: AIG-O, IG