

Subject: The moderinzation of research

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As a seasoned registered nurse, health advocate, and humanitarian, I am concerned about human health and well-being. Having read many research papers and books on vivisection (both pro and against), I have come to the conclusion that animal testing is not only inaccurate and unreliable but unimaginably cruel.

There are a myriad of products available on the market which have never been tested on animals (and are SAFE for people). At one time, these were only available in health food stores and catalogues. Now, due to increasing public awareness and consciousness, they are widely available in supermarkets, drug chains, discount, and departments stores.

Maybe instead of developing new products which are not only toxic, but tested on animals in concentrations that we would NEVER be exposed to, we should be developing natural, gentle, environmentally friendly products (like the ones mentioned above).

Reactions vary from species to species. Thirty percent of substances tested on rats will react differently when tested on mice (even with the dosage adjusted for weight). So how can we hope to extrapolate data from rats or any other species and apply it to people? Humans were deprived of the benefits of digoxin for TEN years because it proved toxic to dogs. Thalidomide, which was safe in all other species, caused horrific birth defects in humans.

We have learned more from clinical and epidemiological studies and through treating people than we have through archaic, pseudo-scientific, and cruel experimental research.

Let us join our European counterparts in phasing out experimental research on all sentient beings.

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