

Subject: <no subject>

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Dear Scientists and Administrators of ICCVAM:

The United States agency overseeing the development of non-animal test methods, the Interagency Coordinating Committee for the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM) has approved only one non-animal test method originating in the U.S. A shameful record when ICCVAM's European counter, ECVAM, has approved dozens.

Rather than being a vehicle to support development and adoption of animal-free testing, ICCVAM has done little in comparison to what can and should be done. As a result, animals continue to needlessly suffer and die when, now, non-animal testing has been proven to better cull the research information needed regarding human health.

There are now non-animal tests available. Science is supposed to improve the lives of humans and also to protect the lives of the vast variety of animal creatures on this beautiful Planet Earth. As an animal lover and caregiver I support the immediate acceptance of internationally validated non-animal tests. Why would any scientific agency stay with inflicting more cruelty and death on innocent captive animals, when valid non-animal tests exist (see first paragraph above)?

Now that better testing options have been proven valid, can your agency invest in better science and compassion at the same time? Now you can help create a more humane and kinder world for all innocent beings when so many animals have already suffered in your labs.

Sincerely,

Marilyn V. Stevens