

**Subject:** Support for Non-Animal Tests

**Date:** Thursday, June 7, 2007 5:08 PM

**From:** David Schachne

Dear ICCVAM:

I support the use of alternatives to animal testing. The U.S. government sorely needs to enhance current policies in order to further goals to replace animal testing with non-animal alternatives. I support the ICCVAM's immediate acceptance of internationally validated non-animal tests.

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, ICVAM has done little in comparison to what can and should be done. As a result, animals continue to needlessly die and human health suffers as animal tests continue to lead to inaccurate and misleading information regarding human health. As you know over 50% of new drugs released in the U.S. since 1997 had toxic or fatal effects that were not predicted by testing in animal labs. Even worse, 92% of drugs tested on animals do not make it to the market place! This is an unbelievable and unacceptable exercise in cruelty with no demonstrable results.

I leave you with quotes from men far wiser than any of us:

"I am in favor of animal rights as well as human rights. That is the way of a whole human being."

Abraham Lincoln

"Non-violence leads to the highest ethics, which is the goal of all evolution. Until we stop harming all other living beings, we are still savages."

Thomas Edison

"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."  
Mahatma Gandhi

"The time will come when men such as I will look upon the murder of animals as they now look on the murder of men."  
Vinci

Leonardo da

Sincerely,  
DAVE  
David J. Schachne

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