THE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON THE VALIDATION OF ALTERNATIVE METHODS AND THE NTP INTERAGENCY CENTER FOR THE EVALUATION OF ALTERNATIVE TOXICOLOGICAL METHODS

The Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM) was established in 1997 by the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) to implement NIEHS directives in Public Law 103-43. P.L. 103-43 directed NIEHS to develop and validate new test methods, and to establish criteria and processes for the validation and regulatory acceptance of toxicological testing methods. P. L. 106-545, the ICCVAM Authorization Act of 2000, established ICCVAM as a permanent committee. The Committee is composed of representatives from 15 Federal regulatory and research agencies and programs that generate, use, or provide information from toxicity test methods for risk assessment purposes. The Committee coordinates cross-agency issues relating to development, validation, acceptance, and national/international harmonization of toxicological test methods.

The National Toxicology Program Interagency Center for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods (Center) was established in 1998 to provide operational support for the ICCVAM, and to carry out committee-related activities such as peer reviews and workshops for test methods of interest to Federal agencies. The Center and ICCVAM coordinate the scientific review of the validation status of proposed methods and provide recommendations regarding their usefulness to appropriate agencies. The NTP Center and ICCVAM seek to promote the validation and regulatory acceptance of toxicological test methods that will enhance agencies' abilities to assess risks and make decisions, and that will refine, reduce, and replace animal use. The ultimate goal is the validation and regulatory acceptance of new test methods that are more predictive of human and ecological effects than currently available methods.

Additional Information

Additional information can be found at the ICCVAM/Center Website: http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov and in the publication: Validation and Regulatory Acceptance of Toxicological Test Methods, a Report of the ad hoc Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (NIH Publication No. 97-3981, or you may contact the Center at telephone 919-541-3398, or by e-mail at iccvam.niehs.nih.gov. Specific questions about ICCVAM and the Center can be directed to the ICCVAM Co-chairs:

Dr. William S. Stokes, NIEHS, EC-17, P.O. Box 12233 Research Triangle Park, NC, 27709; 919-541-7997 stokes@niehs.nih.gov

Dr. Richard N. Hill, US EPA, MC-7101, 401 M Street, SW Washington, DC, 20460; 202-260-2894 hill.richard@epa.gov

ICCVAM Agencies and Programs

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease
Registry
Consumer Product Safety Commission
Department of Agriculture
Department of Defense
Department of Energy
Department of Interior
Department of Transportation
Environmental Protection Agency

Food and Drug Administration

National Cancer Institute National Institute of Environmental Health

Sciences

National Institutes of Health, Office of the

Director

National Institute of Occupational Safety and

Health

National Library of Medicine Occupational Safety and Health

Administration