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Dr. William S. Stokes
NICEATM Director
NIEHS
P.O. Box 12233
MD EC-17
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Dear Dr. Stokes:

I am a research scientist interested in how endocrine disrupting compounds affect brain development. The bulk of my work is *in vivo*, thus I need to house my animals in an environment that does not introduce exogenous estrogens. The capacity to evaluate compounds exhibiting/inhibiting estrogenic activity quickly, particularly in laboratory diets and bedding is imperative for me and other scientists doing similar work.

CertiChem, Inc. of Austin, Texas has an MCF-7 assay for testing the potential estrogen action of compounds. This assay has been shown to be reliable, sensitive and accurate in analyzing estrogenic activity in laboratory animal feeds and feed containers, therefore I encourage ICCVAM to validate their assay.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Regards,

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