

**To: Dr. William Stokes, Director NICEATM (MD EC-17), NIEHS
P.O. Box 12233, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
From: Eleanor Dvorchak, President & S.N.A.P. Board of Directors,**

**Subject: Report of the International Workshop on In Vitro Methods for
Assessing Acute Systemic Toxicity**

Date: November 14, 2001

The LD50 is slowly being phased out internationally and is being replaced with tests that use fewer animals or non at all.

Under your leadership a recent workshop held by the NIEHS addressed the feasibility of going one step further and replacing the animal tests completely with in-vitro cell culture tests. Your scientists have agreed to a partial implementation of in vitro testing, to set a "starting dose" for the lethal poisoning tests, which would have the effect of further reducing the number of animals in the tests.

We commend you on your efforts to implement more humane and cost effective strategies while protecting the public health. We encourage the NIEHS to show its global leadership by being the first to begin efforts to completely replace lethal dose testing with non-animal, in vitro testing methods.

