NICEATM

ICCVAM

National Toxicology Program
Interagency Center for the Evaluation of
Alternative Toxicological Methods

Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods





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This presentation reflects the views of the author, has not been reviewed or approved by, and may not necessarily reflect the view of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.



Draft NICEATM-ICCVAM Five-Year Plan¹

The NICEATM-ICCVAM Five-Year Plan (2008-2012)

Draft: May 4, 2007



Prepared by the
Interagency Coordinating Committee on the
Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM)
and the
National Toxicology Program (NTP) Interagency Center for the
Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods (NICEATM)

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences National Institutes of Health U.S. Public Health Service Department of Health and Human Services

- Federal Register Notice published May 1, 2007 (Vol. 72, No. 83, pp. 23832-23833)
 - Announce availability of the draft Plan
 - Request public comments on the draft Plan

¹Available at http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov/docs/5yearplan.htm



Plan Overview

- Introduction
- Chapters 1-4: 4 Key Challenges
 - Identify priority areas and conduct and facilitate activities in these areas
 - 2. Identify research initiatives that are expected to support the future development of innovative alternative test methods
 - 3. Foster acceptance and appropriate use of alternative test methods through outreach and communication
 - 4. Develop partnerships and strengthen interactions with stakeholders in order to facilitate meaningful progress
- References and Information Resources
- Glossary of Terms
- Acronyms and Abbreviations
- Appendices



5-Year Plan: Introduction

- Agencies have mandates to protect human and animal health and the environment (See Appendix A)
 - In order to fulfill these mandates agencies must ensure that substances are safe, or properly labeled if hazardous
 - Current test methods and strategies involve the use of laboratory animals, in vitro methods, and/or in silico methods
- Agencies must determine if alternative test methods can provide equal or better protection of human and animal health and the environment before their adoption or endorsement
 - The ICCVAM Authorization Act of 2000 requires that new, revised, and alternative test methods must be determined to be valid before agencies can adopt them for regulatory purposes (See Appendix E)





5-Year Plan Introduction: Current U.S. Laws

- U.S. laws (42 USC 289d, 7 USC 2131 et. seq.) require, prior to the use of animals for research and testing, that alternatives be considered and used where appropriate that will¹:
 - Reduce the number of animals to the minimum required to obtain scientifically valid data
 - Refine procedures to lessen or eliminate pain and distress to animals
 - Replace animals with non-animal systems or with a phylogenetically lower animal species

¹all of ICCVAM's activities are grounded in the *U.S. Principles for the Utilization and Care of Vertebrate Animals Used in Testing, Research, and Training*

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/references/phspol.htm#USGovPrinciples



5-Year Plan Introduction: Roles of ICCVAM and NICEATM

- NICEATM and ICCVAM work with stakeholders to <u>facilitate</u> research,development, translation, and validation activities
 - Depend on stakeholders to conduct and achieve successful test method research, development, translation, and validation
 - ICCVAM reviews submissions from stakeholders to determine the validation status and usefulness and limitations of new and revised test methods
- Federal agencies with statutory authority to conduct research, development, translation, and/or validation activities:
 - Department of Defense
 - Department of Energy
 - Environmental Protection Agency
 - Department of the Interior
 - NIEHS/NTP

- Food and Drug Administration
- NIOSH
- ATSDR
- NIH Office of the Director
- National Cancer Institute
- Department of Agriculture



Key Challenges for NICEATM-ICCVAM

- 1. Identify priority areas and conduct and facilitate activities in these areas
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Challenge 1:Identify priority areas and conduct and facilitate activities in these areas

- Addressed in Chapter 1
 - Current and Planned Activities for Priority Test Methods to Reduce, Refine,
 and Replace Animals in Regulatory Testing
- ICCVAM test method prioritization criteria
 - Potential impact on reducing, refining, or replacing animals for testing
 - Potential to improve prediction of adverse health or environmental effects
 - 3. Applicability to multiple agencies
- Priorities may vary across Agencies
- Priorities may change
 - Need to be flexible so we can take advantage of advances in science and technology and availability of new methods



Chapter 1: Current priority areas¹

- Ocular Toxicity Testing
- Acute Toxicity Testing
- Biologics/Vaccines Testing
- Dermal Toxicity Testing
- Immunotoxicity Testing
- Endocrine Disruptor Testing
- Pyrogen Testing
- Chronic Toxicity/Carcinogenicity Testing

¹These priorities are likely to evolve in response to new testing needs and advances



Ocular Toxicity Testing

High Priority

- Multiple regulatory agencies require that ocular hazards be identified to warn consumers and workers
- Potential for significant pain and distress to test animals

- Improve non-animal methods to detect permanent eye damage
- Assess non-animal methods to detect reversible eye damage
- Collect reference data to facilitate validation studies
- Evaluate new methods or combinations/batteries of in vitro methods
- Review routine use of topical anesthetics and systemic analgesics for reducing pain and distress



Acute Systemic Toxicity Testing

(oral, dermal, inhalation)

High priority

- Most common toxicity test conducted worldwide
- Testing required by several federal agencies
- Potential for significant pain and distress to test animals

- Review non-animal methods to reduce animal use for mixtures (a significant percentage of studies)
- Expand reference database to facilitate the development and validation of other new *in vitro* tests (or batteries of tests)
- Organize an international workshop to identify earlier, more humane endpoints and predictive batteries of *in vitro* test methods
- Foster use of in vitro methods by the regulated community



Biologics/Vaccines Testing

- High priority
 - Testing typically requires large numbers of animals
 - Potential for significant pain and distress to test animals
- Planned activities include
 - Follow and foster the development of alternative methods for vaccine potency testing
 - A priority will be an in vitro potency test being developed by the USDA
 - Review candidate alternative methods
 - Facilitate the acceptance of humane endpoints



Dermal Toxicity Testing

High Priority

- Multiple agencies require that dermal hazards be identified to warn consumers and workers
- Potential to cause significant pain and distress to test animals

- Evaluate a combination (or battery) of in vitro test methods for evaluating skin corrosivity and irritation
- Evaluate in vitro approaches for determining the skin irritation potential of antimicrobial cleaning products



Immunotoxicity Testing: Allergic Contact Dermatitis

High Priority

- Multiple agencies require that the skin sensitizing hazards be identified to warn consumers and workers
- Traditional test has potential to cause significant pain and distress; partially replaced by LLNA

- Evaluate ability of LLNA to determine potency
- Evaluate modifications to the LLNA
 - non-radiolabeled methods
 - a limit dose approach
- Expand the scope and usefulness of the LLNA (eliminates pain and distress)



Endocrine Disruptor Testing

High Priority

- Congress mandated that EPA develop and implement a screening and testing program for endocrine disruptors
- Potential for large numbers of animals; castration/ovariectomy required for screening tests

- Complete an international validation study to evaluate an *in vitro* method to identify estrogen-like compounds
 - Eliminate the need for tissue donor animals
- Increase involvement in OECD test guideline activities related to estrogen disruptors.
 - Promote standardized and adequately validated test methods



Pyrogen Testing

High Priority

- Injectable or implanted drugs and devices must be shown to be free of substances that could cause fever
- Current testing requires animals if existing in vitro method (BET) cannot be used

- Develop final recommendations for five in vitro pyrogen tests
 - current usefulness and limitations
 - standardized protocols and future studies
 - performance standards
- Encourage additional studies needed to expand applicability
- Revisit validation status once additional studies are completed



Chronic Toxicity/Carcinogenicity Testing

High Priority

- Current in vivo methods use large numbers of animals and two years to conduct
- Cancer and chronic disease may cause significant pain and distress to test animals

- Participate in a JaCVAM-sponsored international validation of the the alkaline Comet assay to evaluate DNA damage in cells
 - If the JaCVAM validation study is successful, participate in validation of an *in vitro* Comet assay for use in a battery of genotoxicity tests.



Other Toxicity Areas of Interest

- Neurotoxicity testing
- Reproductive and developmental toxicity testing
- Planned activities include
 - Monitor ongoing research activities
 - Identify the most useful tests
 - Facilitate their development and validation
 - Formally evaluate validation status for regulatory testing



Key Challenges for NICEATM-ICCVAM

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Challenge 2:Identify research that may lead to future innovative alternative test methods

- Addressed in Chapter 2 Advances in Science and Technology
- Several agencies have research and development programs
 - ICCVAM will monitor these for potential use in regulatory testing
- Areas currently identified as potentially applicable
 - High Throughput Screening
 - Other Animal Systems (Lower Species)
 - Computational Approaches
 - Biomarkers of Toxicity
 - Nanomaterials Testing Strategies
 - Toxicology Databases
- Most of these areas will require several years of development
- ICCVAM and NICEATM will continuously monitor federal agency and other stakeholders' research activities for additional areas of interest



Challenge 2: Identify research that may lead to future innovative alternative test methods (continued)

- High Throughput Screening (HTS)
 - Conducive to the development of predictive in vitro test batteries
 - Potential to rapidly produce huge quantities of in vitro data
 - 1536 data points per plate versus 96 data points currently
 - Allows for different cell systems to be used at multiple concentrations
- Other Animal Systems
 - Phylogenetically lower animal systems offer quicker, less expensive tests
 - Genetic similarities and differences to humans are well understood
- Computational Approaches
 - Used in conjunction with HTS allows for rapid evaluation of large data sets
 - Can test large numbers of chemicals to determine priorities for further testing
 - May be used to assist in setting starting doses for further testing



Challenge 2: Identify research that may lead to future innovative alternative test methods (continued)

- Biomarkers of Toxicity
 - May be used to predict damage to specific organs
 - May allow the use of more humane endpoints
 - May relieve pain and distress resulting from developing tumors and chronic disease
 - May assist with the development of in vitro screening tests
- Nanomaterials Testing
 - Nanomaterials are used across many technologies
 - Effect on toxicity of materials is largely unknown
 - Current tests may not be applicable or appropriate
- Toxicology Databases
 - Will provide high-quality animal test data
 - Will assist in the development of non-animal tests



Key Challenges for NICEATM-ICCVAM

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Challenge 3: Foster Acceptance and Appropriate use of Alternative Test Methods

- Addressed in Chapter 3
 - Fostering Acceptance and Appropriate use of Alternative Test
 Methods
- Why is this important?
 - New and revised methods must be both accepted and used to impact the 3R's
- How will ICCVAM foster acceptance and use of alternative test methods?
 - Provide guidance on adequate validation study design
 - Carry out high-quality public independent peer reviews
 - Provide comprehensive test method evaluations to regulatory agencies
 - Arrange implementation workshops



Key Challenges for NICEATM-ICCVAM

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Challenge 4: Develop partnerships and strengthen interactions with stakeholders

- Addressed in Chapter 4 Developing Partnerships and Strengthening Interactions with ICCVAM Stakeholders
- Effective interactions are needed to stimulate alternative test method research, development, translation, and validation by stakeholders
- Partnerships will:
 - Best utilize existing resources
 - Maximize efficiency/minimize duplication of evaluation efforts
 - Ensure an early exchange of information
 - Facilitate national and international recognition, acceptance, and implementation of scientifically valid test methods



Challenge 4: Develop partnerships and strengthen interactions with stakeholders

- How will we strengthen our interactions?
 - Strengthen international interactions with organizations such as OECD to foster appropriate development and validation of test methods
 - Foster interagency collaborations including validation studies
 - Collaborate with stakeholders to organize workshops to review state-of-the-art science and prioritize research, development, translation, and validation needed to advance the 3R's
 - Foster international collaborations by including experts from the international community on panels and workshops
 - Collaborate with ECVAM and JaCVAM to carry out independent validation studies



What Do We Hope To Achieve?

- Further reduction and replacement of animal use where scientifically feasible
- Further reduction or elimination of pain and distress where animals are still used
- Continued protection of public health, animal health, and the environment

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