

From: Gill Langley  
Date: Tue, 07 Mar 2006 09:34:16 +0000  
To: <niceatm@niehs.nih.gov>  
Subject: Botulinum toxin testing

Dear Madam or Sir,

I write on behalf of an English medical research charity, the Dr Hadwen Trust for Humane Research. We have 36 years' experience in funding the development of non-animal alternatives to replace animal experiments in medical research and testing ([www.drhadwentrust.org.uk](http://www.drhadwentrust.org.uk)).

We understand that ICCVAM/NICEATM is planning to co-ordinate an expert workshop on potential alternatives to the LD50 testing of Botulinum toxin products. We support the concept of an expert workshop as an important first step in the process of implementing non-animal alternatives, and we believe that this should be a high priority. There is enormous inertia within the regulatory system and a workshop of this kind could make a big difference.

The Dr Hadwen Trust funded developmental work carried out by Dr Dorothea Sesardic at UK's NIBSC, to develop the SNAP-25 assay several years ago. We understand that that Dr Sesardic is interested in attending the proposed workshop and we believe strongly that she would make very important contributions to such a group.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

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Dr Hadwen Trust for Humane Research  
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