

11-10-01

Dear Dr. William Stokes:

I am corresponding in regards to the the LD50 Test. I know this is slowly being phased out internationally and is being replaced with tests that use fewer animals [or none at all]. A recent workshop held by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), addressed the feasibility of going one step further and replacing the animal tests completely with in-vitro cell culture tests. Scientists at the NIEHS workshop 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. I am urging you to please begin efforts to completely replace lethal dose testing with non-animal, in vitro testing methods.

Thank you for your time and consideration to this urgent and important matter.

Most Respectfully,

Dr. Lori Ugolik