

**From:** Viktor [viktorawi@siskiyou.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 03, 2003 8:55 PM  
**To:** NSTC\_RBM  
**Subject:** DOCID:fr06au03-86

To Whom It May Concern

I wish to express my strong endorsement of the requirement for biomedical investigators to do a thorough literature search for Alternatives.

The literature search for Alternatives - Refinement, Reduction and Replacement - can be accomplished nowadays without much effort and time input and with no or little expenses.

The databases are comprehensive and available to every scientist who has access to the Internet. This literature search should be a basic requirement for any biomedical scientist BEFORE he/she drafts a research proposal. It will be one fundamental warranty that research will be conducted following fundamental principles of reliable scientific methodology - minimizing data variation - and that excessive numbers of animals will not be used in research. This not only reduces research costs but also eliminates unnecessary animal suffering.

Thank your for your consideration,  
Viktor Reinhardt, DVM, Ph.D.  
Laboratory Animal Advisor  
Animal Welfare Institute  
Washington, DC