

## Novartis Position on Animal Research

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Novartis's mission is the discovery and development of new and innovative medicines to treat, prevent and cure diseases that affect human health and well-being.

Many encouraging alternative research methods to animals such as computer modeling and cell based research assays have been introduced into the process of drug development in recent years. During the last few years, Novartis has continuously reduced the number of animals used in pre-clinical trials and on our premises. Nevertheless, animal research still comprises an essential part of drug discovery and development. Today, there are still several areas where an understanding of disease mechanisms cannot be achieved without the use of animals. Sometimes, the knowledge acquired through animal research is essential for the development of innovative treatments for unmet medical needs in humans. In addition, regulatory authorities worldwide require new drugs to be tested in animals to ensure their safety and efficacy before being introduced into humans.

Animal research nevertheless is controversial to some, who question the right of human beings to use animals in such a manner or are unaware of the high animal welfare standards set in our industry.

### Novartis Position

- Novartis only supports the use of animals in our medical and biological research when such procedures are scientifically justified and required to understand the effect of a drug in a living system.
- Animals are used only when alternative methods or approaches are inappropriate or not feasible.
- Novartis has an Animal Welfare Policy and a set of Animal Welfare Standards that define key principles, requirements and responsibilities governing the care and use of animals and the conduct of animal-based research.
- These standards apply to all Novartis activities involving animals both in-house and at our external partners.
- All of the Novartis animal facilities and research programs adhere to and comply with applicable national laws, regulations and accreditation guidelines for the care and use of animals in research or exceed them.
- Novartis has a Global Animal Welfare Organization that is empowered to steer and influence the company's adherence to the policy and standards.
- As strong adherents to the 3Rs concept (i.e. Reduction, Refinement and Replacement of animal research), we acknowledge the importance of animal welfare and support the development of alternative research methods.
- Novartis condemns the use of violence and campaigns of willful destruction by animal rights activists as substitutes for meaningful, constructive dialogue.

*Last updated February 2017*