

Laboratory Animals Ethics Statement

The Life Science Group (LSG) support the view that animal welfare considerations are not only important for ethical and legal reasons, but also should be fully consistent with the highest standards of scientific investigation. We understand that there is an expectation from grant-awarding bodies, scientific journals and the scientific community as a whole for the highest animal welfare standards.*

- All laboratory animals used for the collection of blood, fluids and tissues are housed at facilities inspected by the USDA. The maintenance of these facilities complies with the current United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Guide for the Care and Use of Research Animals.
- All collections from, and maintenance of, laboratory animals are covered by protocols that the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) has approved and these protocols are reviewed annually. All laboratory animals housed in facilities used by LSG are maintained under an approved environmental enrichment program. The Veterinary Officers attending these facilities are board certified by the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine.
- There have never been any non-compliant items in the USDA inspections of the facilities used by LSG for the collection of blood, fluid and tissues. Semi-annual Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) inspections are conducted to monitor and evaluate the Animal Care and Use program, procedures and facilities.
- All laboratory animals housed in facilities used by LSG are subjected to a full documented inspection by registered Veterinary Officials at regular, documented intervals.
- The European Partnership for Alternative Approaches to Animal Testing (EPAA**) is an unprecedented voluntary collaboration between the European Commission, European trade associations, and companies from seven industry sectors. The Life Science Group recognises the requirement for the replacement, reduction and refinement of animal use in regulatory testing and other applications and supports the efforts of the EPAA.

* Workman, P., *et al.* (2010) Guidelines for the welfare and use of animals in cancer research. British Journal of Cancer 102: 1555-1577

** https://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/chemicals/epaa_en

Support

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