APPROVED
FORUM: Special Conference (SPECON)
QUESTION OF: Ethical considerations in the use of animal testing in pharmaceutical research
SUBMITTED BY: Australia
CO-SUBMITTED BY: Afghanistan, Belgium, Brazil, Costa Rica, The Netherlands, Ukraine, Qatar, United States of America

THE SPECIAL CONFERENCE ON ETHOS VS. PROGRESS,

Acknowledging the ethical standards in pharmaceutical research as outlined in the WMA Declaration of Helsinki,

Deeply concerned about the reliance on animal testing in global pharmaceutical industries,

Aware of the Human-Based Model, we are convinced that it is a viable alternative to animal experimentation,

Taking into account the utilisation of human-derived models, such as organoids, can help researchers in the investigation of drug responses and disease mechanisms and prevent animal testing,

1.Recommends that member states internally evaluate the necessity of animal testing and reduce excessive harm or cruelty during the process through means such as but not limited to:

a) Requesting institutions to report the purpose and nature of experiments involving animal testing prior to approval,
b) Reducing excessive animal testing through federal regulation,
c) Encouraging countries to adopt these methods in line with global safety standards, such as the Animal Welfare Act (AWA),
d) opting for alternatives to animal testing in contexts where possible with the aid of tools such as:
    i. In vitro testing,
    ii. Ex vivo testing,
    iii. In chemico testing,
    iv. Computer models to predict drug safety and toxic effects before releasing them,
    v. 3D Cells;

2. Calls upon national federative organizations to lay focus on the limitation and ban of animal testing in the medical sector instead of the cosmetological one due to:

a) Cosmetology being regarded as secondary research using animal testing,
b) The procedures being easily replaceable in cosmetological research;

3. Urges scientific institutions, research centers and universities of member states to develop or implement alternatives to animal testing in the pharmaceutical industry to achieve results without consulting living specimens and release safer medicine by means such as:

a) in chemico research for a physicochemical measurement process that measures a drug's reactivity without making use of living specimens,
b) in silico research to immediately recognize and measure a drug's reactivity and toxicity levels,
c) the "organs-on-a-chip" method, allowing scientists to generate almost the exact reactions of human organs when tested upon;

4. Calls for international collaboration within the United Nations (UN) to initiate a secure database on which research institutions from member states can openly share information such as:

a) information regarding the development of alternatives to animal testing such as:
    i. in chemico research,
    ii. in silico research,
    iii. "organs-on-a-chip" and "human-on-a-chip" methods,
b) technological knowledge and information on the proper use of special equipmentin order to facilitate the application of said methods in member states,
c) Sharing data collected from human responses to make alternative models more accurate to improve computer and mathematical models,
d) the development of models that can replicate human organs to predict reactions to medicines and toxins;

5. Encourages international scientific networks to collaborate to improve computer and mathematical models, such as the "human-on-a-chip" model, by means such as but not limited to:

a) funding the development of said models in order to ensure the stable and uninterrupted progress of this research field,
b) investing in research to create multi-organ chips that can better simulate human responses to chemicals and drugs;

6. Suggests for the official recognition of in vitro, in silico, and "organ-on-a-chip" technologies as justified and certified alternatives to animal testing within international laws and regulations, through means such as but not limited to:

a) programs that encourage the use of these methods in research and testing,
b) making sure that these methods are accepted by regulators for safety testing in the pharmaceutical, chemical, and cosmetic industries;

7. Wishes to remain actively seized upon the matter.