

## **Statement from The University of Manchester on medical research involving animals**

As one of the leading centres for medical research in the UK, The University of Manchester is committed to the alleviation of human suffering and the search for effective strategies for the prevention, treatment and eradication of a wide range of medical conditions and diseases.

The University's policy is only to permit the use of animals in medical research where absolutely no alternative is available and to embrace the principles of the 3Rs – Reduction, Refinement and Replacement of animal models. Where the use of animals is unavoidable, appropriate steps are taken to minimise their discomfort.

All research involving animals is conducted in accordance with relevant legislation, in particular the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986, which is widely acknowledged to be the strictest animal welfare legislation in the world. This legislation requires the University to open its facilities to frequent, unannounced visits by Government-appointed inspectors.

The University maintains the highest possible standards of animal welfare and insists that all staff involved in the care and handling of laboratory animals are properly trained and aware of the legal and ethical issues involved.

The University is actively involved in the search for new technologies, such as computer modelling and tissue cultures, which will reduce the number of animals used in medical research.

For further information, please contact the Media Relations Office at the University of Manchester on 0161 275 8258, or:

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