

Compassion for Humans and Animals

Roche and Animal Testing

Roche is committed to researching and developing new medicines that make a real difference to people's lives by improving their health and easing suffering. Our broad range of diagnostic tests and pharmaceutical products address the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease.

After 100 years of innovation in medical research, Roche remains at the cutting edge – we are a world leader in biotechnology and the leader in technologies, such as genetics, that offer huge potential for the future of healthcare

This commitment to improving health through research and development means that Roche, like all leading pharmaceutical companies, has to undertake animal experiments. We have to do this because we are required to by law and because there is still no widely acknowledged scientific alternative.

Wherever scientifically and legally possible, our medical research is conducted without the use of animals. But animal research remains essential to help scientists evaluate the safety and efficacy of new medicines.

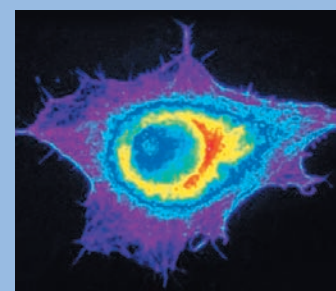
At Roche, non-animal models are always used where they can provide the information needed. Our scientists use computer modelling and simulation to determine which new compounds might

be effective. Only the most promising molecules are put forward to animal testing for further research. Such innovations have enabled Roche to reduce its animal testing by at least 70 per cent since 1994.

Whilst our use of methods that do not involve animals is increasing and we are committed to finding more alternatives as quickly as possible, many of the effects of a medicine in the living body depend on biological processes. These processes can not yet be simulated on a computer or replicated in a test tube – animal testing is vital in bridging the gap between the test tube and the patient.

For all these reasons, the law demands that any potential new medicine is tested on animals before it can be tested on human volunteers, who take part in clinical trials as a medicine moves from research and into development.

Where animals are needed in research, Roche is committed to providing the highest possible standards of care for



Breast tumor cell
Fluorescence microscopy



Research and development in action

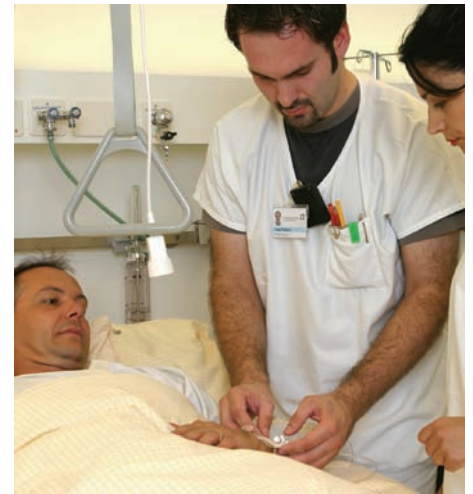
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The UK pharmaceutical industry has high standards of laboratory animal welfare and the most stringent and effective controls in the world.

them. All employees within Roche who work with animals, including external contractors who perform tests on our behalf, are still required to obey the law at all times, conduct their research with compassion and apply the highest standards of welfare and respect for the animals in their 'care'.

The UK pharmaceutical industry has high standards of laboratory animal welfare and the most stringent and effective controls in the world. Animal research in the UK is very tightly regulated by law. Each individual project involving animal research needs a Home Office licence, which is subject to stringent conditions, and every person carrying out such research must also have a personal licence.

Roche is very conscious of public concerns about using animals in scientific procedures and accepts that many people would like all such work stopped. We will continue to reduce our use of animals and to find alternatives wherever scientifically and legally possible. While everyone is entitled to express their opinions in a peaceful and law abiding way, we deplore the aggressive actions of extremists who seek to threaten scientific research and the health of patients who benefit from new medical breakthroughs.



Published by

Corporate Affairs
for Roche in the UK

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Roche Products Ltd.
Hexagon Place
6 Falcon Way, Shire Park
Welwyn Garden City
Hertfordshire, AL7 1TW
www.rocheuk.com

Roche Diagnostics Ltd.
Charles Avenue
Burgess Hill
Sussex, RH15 9RY
www.roche-diagnostics.co.uk