

A step-change in openness: Results of the UK Concordat



Wendy Jarrett , CEO, Understanding Animal Research



The past - a climate of extremism

65p
Wednesday 24 August 2005
www.independent.co.uk
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Today
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official
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44-page supplement

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

THE INDEPENDENT



Recycle your wardrobe!

HOW TO STAY STYLISH THIS AUTUMN - WITHOUT GOING SHOPPING Pages 34&35



Closed
Jul 1997

COMBORT KENNELS, Hereford: Finally closes after 10-month campaign of daily vigils and night-time raids



Closed
AUG 1999

HILLMOYE FARM, Essex: UK's largest supplier of cats for vivisection shuts after two year protest



Attached
Feb 2001

HUNTINGDON LIFE SCIENTIST: Managing director Brian Cass attacked by pickaxe-handle wielding extremists



Abandoned
Jan 2004

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: Plans for a private research centre in the city stopped because of rising costs



Closed
Jul 2004

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: work on an animal housing facility suspended when main building contractors pull out



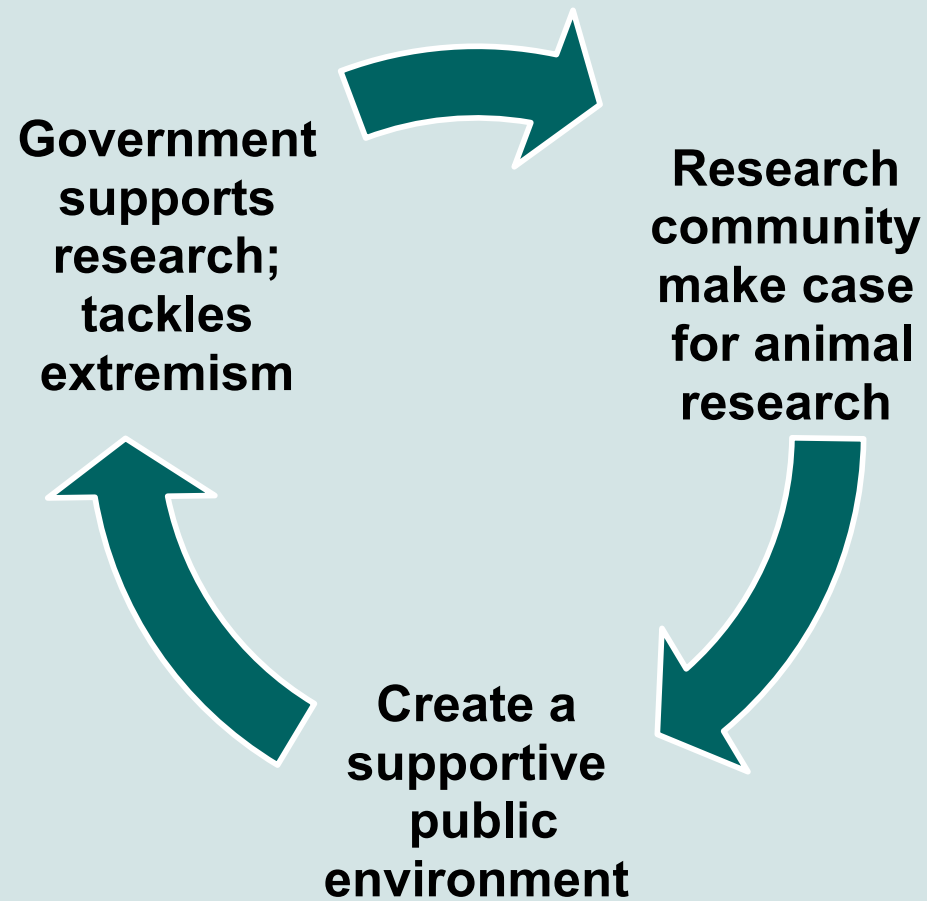
Closed
AUG 2005

EARLEY OAK FARM, Newbury: Owners of Guinea pig farm announce closure yesterday, after six years of protests

Animals, activists and eight years of violence

Hardline protesters prevail again as guinea pig farm is forced to close

TURN TO PAGE 2



Public turns on animal terrorists

■ 7 in 10 back live medical experiments ■ Stiff jail terms for fanatics win approval

Philip Johnston
Home Affairs Editor

EXTREMIST behaviour by animal rights protesters has had the effect of increasing public support for testing new medical treatments on animals, a poll for *The Daily Telegraph* has found.

The proportion of people who approve of animal testing is now at an all-time high and more than three quarters believe that the more fanatical activists can justifiably be defined as "terrorists".

High-profile campaigns, such as intimidating scientists and threatening shareholders in pharmaceutical companies, appear to have backfired badly.

The YouGov survey suggests that fewer than one person in five considers animal testing to be unacceptable in any circumstance.

More than 70 per cent said they accepted that experimentation on animals was sometimes essential because alternative methods were unavailable.

There was also widespread concern that a ban on medical research on animals would merely encourage pharmaceutical multi-nationals to set up abroad, where the safeguards that exist in Britain against causing unnecessary suffering may be absent.

The findings appear to contradict the claims often made by opponents of animal testing that there is "overwhelming" public support for their cause.

While people might prefer not to see animals suffer, just 19 per cent took the view that alternative methods of testing were always available.

Brian Cass, the managing director of Huxington Life Sciences, an animal-testing research company, which has



An animal rights demonstrator outside a monkey farm in West Sussex. Extremist behaviour, such as defiling a grave, has damaged their cause in the eye of the public who regard them as terrorists

has had so much publicity that organisations like ourselves have gone out of our way to provide an almost open laboratory to the media.

"This has brought a much more open presentation of both how animal testing is done and the best arguments that

in a much better position to form objective judgments. When they do so they tend to support the work."

Previous polls have shown opinion more or less evenly divided on animal testing.

YouGov's findings indicate that the damage of their cam-

people have no objection to campaigners staging peaceful demonstrations, they draw the line at some of the activities seen in recent years.

There was strong support for the 12-year jail terms given this month to three campaigners who had been

disincent of the body of a woman whose family bred animals for experimentation.

Opposition to threats, hate campaigns and vandalism is

almost universal and 88 per cent believe it is wrong to post the names and addresses of people connected with animal

experiments than they were previously."

The findings suggest that Tony Blair was very much in tune with public opinion when he took the unusual step of agreeing to sign a petition affirming support for the right of scientists to conduct live

experiments than they were previously."

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experiments than they were previously."

"What we are witnessing is a concerted effort to rid Britain of animal rights terrorism. I am beginning to think that the tide has turned."

Prof Colin Blakemore
Page 5



Poll analysis Anthony King
Page 4

Editorial Comment:
Page 17

government would consider a new law to protect the identities of those involved in testing.

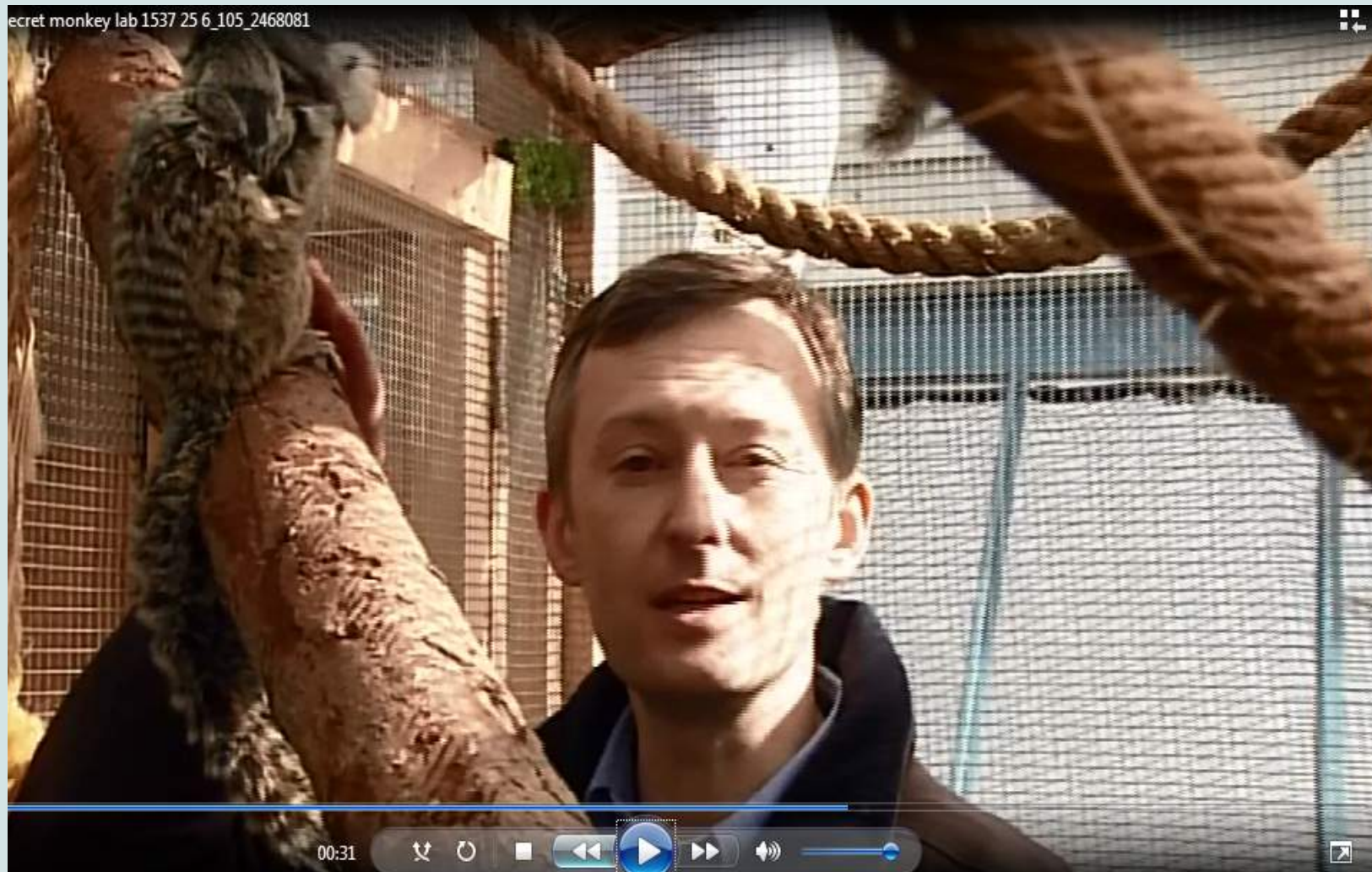
His move came amid continuing protests in Oxford against plans for a new medical research laboratory at the university and complaints that despite a few high-profile prosecutions, the police are not doing enough to disrupt the activities of known extremists.

Part of the reason for changing public attitudes could be an appreciation that animals are no longer used to test cosmetics in Britain, though the number of tests for medical purposes is rising. In 2004, there were around 2.2 million experiments

The ingredients for the change

- Government support for the bioscience sector - very important to UK economy
- Changes in legislation – ‘blackmail’ charges
- Huge policing efforts
- All main extremists convicted and imprisoned for up to 12 years
- Large fall in criminal activity
- And communications.....

BBC filming in a primate lab - 2005



Positive media coverage

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Page last updated at 11:28 GMT, Wednesday, 12 November 2008

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Parkinson's patient on animal research



Welcome

Welcome

We aim to provide all you want to know about animal research, whether you are a concerned member of the public or have a special interest.

If you are a teacher, student, scientist, policy maker or a journalist, select the bar on the right to find the content of most interest to you.



Journalists	Scientists	Schools	Policy Makers
2	3	4	5



LIVE
BRISTOL

BBC
NEWS 24
20:36
HEADLINES

ANS - HE IS 1 OF 7 SOLDIERS ON TRIAL OVER THE DEATH OF A



News



an animal

Health timeline

Find out about the animal research behind major medical

2010 - It seemed the job was done...



% of GB public that can accept animal research 2002 - 2012



Declaration on Openness - 2012

“We, the undersigned, commit to work together to establish a Concordat that will develop **principles of openness, practical steps** and **measurable objectives** which will underpin a more transparent approach to animal research.”

Developing the Concordat

- Steering Group
- Working Group
- Workshop with journalists – June 2013
- Public Dialogue project – Summer 2013
- Public Consultation – Nov-Dec 2013
- Final publication – May 2014

Concordat Commitments

1. We will be clear about when, how and why we use animals in research
2. We will enhance our communications with the media and the public about our research using animals
3. We will be proactive in providing opportunities for the public to find out about research using animals
4. We will report on progress annually and share our experiences

Further sub-commitments

1. We will be clear about when, how and why we use animals in research
 - Provide accurate descriptions of the benefits, harms and limitations of such research
 - Take steps to ensure that staff (and students, where relevant) are aware
 - Provide information and respond to enquiries.
 - In partnership working, all parties will agree to take an open approach



Resources to support the Concordat



Training for members



Resources

[Resources Overview](#)

[Animal Research Essay Resources](#)

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Image library

Welcome to the Understanding Animal Research image library. This contains over 250 high quality images of a wide range of laboratory animals and many infographics. Most laboratory animal pictures are recent and from UK laboratories in universities and other research facilities.

Please browse the thumbnail images on these pages. Below is a selection of our favourites. For any image of interest, click on 'details' to get further information. You can download images, just right click and 'save image'. This may take a minute or two as many are large files.

Please acknowledge [Understanding Animal Research](#) and include a link when you use our images. We would also appreciate you sending us a link to your work, please email office@uar.org.uk, many thanks!

p.s the 'other' category contains gerbils

Filter by Category



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We recommend news, comment, background and multimedia to help you.

Scientists

Click here to find everything you need to know about animal research.

Schools

If you are a teacher or a student we provide resources just for you.

Policy makers

Interested in any aspect of animal research policy? This is where to find it.

Latest News

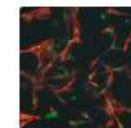
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This week in animal research
21/10/16
21 October 2016



New hope for stroke
19 October 2016



This week in animal research
14/10/16
14 October 2016



This week in animal research
071016
7 October 2016

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Video library



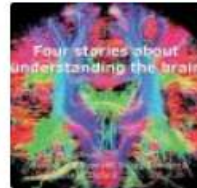
Ferrets and Flu

Ferrets catch flu so they are used in research to make flu vaccines



Bd: The Amphibian Plague

The fungus *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* wiped out frogs and salamanders across the globe. What can be do...



2015 Paget Lecture - Brain stories

The 79th Paget lecture given by Professor Sir Colin Blakemore: Four stories about the brain



Rats close up

Close up views of laboratory rats



Animal research in the UK

An animation designed for politics.co.uk, to give an overview of animal research in the UK.



Pacemakers: then, now and next?

A brief history of heart pacemakers with son predictions for the future.



Mouse cage enrichment

Plugs, pipes, rungs and rings fill these cages.



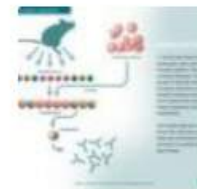
Breeding Zebrafish

This film shows some of the aspects of zebra production and maintenance.



Ten medical breakthroughs thanks to animal testing

A century of medical advances in a minute of video.



Herceptin - the first monoclonal antibody treatment for cancer

This presentation outlines the research and development that led to Herceptin, the first effective monoclonal ...

Opportunities to talk in schools



Open Labs



Results of the Concordat

- 118 statements on websites
- Improvement in publicly-available information
- No significant campaigns against new animal research facilities under construction
- Reduction in FOI requests

Coverage of animal research

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NEWS HEALTH

Home World UK England N. Ireland Scotland Wales Business Politics Health Education Sci/Environment Technology Entertainment & Arts

28 January 2014 Last updated at 17:00 [Share](#) [f](#) [t](#) [e](#)

Fergus Walsh
Medical correspondent
[More from Fergus](#)



Why Oxford scientists are experimenting on monkeys

[COMMENTS \(602\)](#)



See inside the Oxford animal laboratory

The macaque in front of me has a choice. Two differently coloured images have been slid in front of her cage.

She taps the purple picture and gets a treat. The next time she taps the black image. On this occasion not only does she get a reward, but a second monkey facing her does too.

This is an experiment in social decision-making, looking at the impact that our choices have on others. It's something humans and monkeys do every day.

The monkeys appear relaxed and interested - possibly more intrigued by

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- Rolf Harris 'disguised dark side'
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- French police move into Calais camps

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- Old Friends**
Remembering the much-loved sitcom a decade after it ended
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When a brand's size becomes its death sentence
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The amazing moment scientists restore movement to paralysed hand

Researchers connect brain and spinal cord of macaque monkey to a computer to stimulate the animals nerves and restore function to its temporarily paralysed hand



[Find out more >](#)

Vodafone Power to you

The screenshot shows a laboratory setting where a macaque monkey's hand is being held. A computer monitor in the foreground displays a software interface for monitoring and controlling the stimulation. The interface includes the following elements:

- Stimulation OFF**: A status indicator at the bottom of the screen.
- Spikes**: A section at the top right showing a waveform graph.
- Stimul**: A section below the spikes, also showing a waveform graph.
- Flexor Digitorum Profundus**: A label for the muscle being stimulated, with a horizontal line below it.
- Displacement**: A label at the bottom right, with a horizontal line below it.

The video frame also shows the 'ECN Newcastle University' logo in the top left corner.

See inside monkey testing centre where marmosets are given brain damage to help treat Parkinson's

May 28, 2014 20:00 | By **Martin Bagot**

Scientists say the animals could improve the lives of 172,000 sufferers in the UK - but is what the poor primates go through justified?

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Regular mentions of animal research



The image is a screenshot of the BBC News website. At the top, the BBC logo is on the left, followed by a location indicator for 'Kanga' and a notification bell. A navigation bar includes links for News, Sport, Weather, iPlayer, TV, Radio, and More, along with a search bar. Below this is a red header with the word 'NEWS' in white, and a location indicator for 'London'. A secondary navigation bar lists various news categories: Home, UK, World, Business, Politics, Tech, Science, Health, Education, Entertainment & Arts, Video & Audio, and More. The main content area is titled 'Health' and features a large article headline: 'Zika vaccine 'works very well' in mice'. The author is identified as Michelle Roberts, Health editor at BBC News online. The article is dated 28 June 2016 and includes a 'Share' button. Below the headline is a large image of a mosquito silhouette against a yellow and orange gradient background. To the right of the main article is a 'Top Stories' section with three items: 'Carnage after Istanbul airport attack' (23 minutes ago), 'Cameron: UK will not shun Europe' (4 hours ago), and 'Leadership challenge to Corbyn expected' (55 minutes ago). Below that is a 'Features' section with a thumbnail image of a woman in a white headscarf and a caption: 'Journey's end: Why a mother had to visit the place where her son died'. At the bottom of the page, there is a section titled 'Zika virus' with a sub-headline: 'Zika outbreak: What you need to know'. A small 'SPL' logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the mosquito image.

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Health

Zika vaccine 'works very well' in mice

By Michelle Roberts
Health editor, BBC News online

28 June 2016 | Health [Share](#)



SPL

A single dose of an experimental vaccine can protect mice against the Zika virus, raising renewed hope of a vaccine for humans, say scientists.

Zika virus

Zika outbreak: What you need to know

Top Stories

Carnage after Istanbul airport attack
A suicide bomb and gun attack at Istanbul airport kills at least 36 people and injures more than 140.
23 minutes ago

Cameron: UK will not shun Europe
4 hours ago

Leadership challenge to Corbyn expected
55 minutes ago

Features



Journey's end
Why a mother had to visit the place where her son died

Media coverage

Lamb born in plastic 'womb' could help save premature babies' lives



Richard Hartley-Parkinson for Metro.co.uk Wednesday 26 Apr 2017 7:10 am



1.4k



Step-change in available information

ANIMAL RESEARCH



[UCL Home](#) > [Animal Research](#)

Animal Research

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- > [Why and when we use animals in research](#)
- > [How UCL protects animals](#)
- > [How UK law protects animals](#)
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Animal research at UCL

UCL is a world-leading medical research institution and animal research forms a relatively small but vital proportion of our work. 26% of our research staff have used animals at least once during their UCL career. The majority of our research staff, 74%, do not use animals in their research.

These pages outline why and when animal research is necessary, how this is governed and how we are working to reduce, refine and replace animal research where possible. Examples of UCL research using animals and alternative methods are provided alongside facts and figures detailing how many animals are used in UCL research each year.

The bigger picture

Animal research has been at the heart of medical progress throughout history, and much of the medicine we take for granted has roots in animal studies. From penicillin and painkillers to cutting-edge cancer drugs, animal research has played a crucial part in the development of almost every medical treatment used today.

Research using animals continues to make vital contributions to the understanding and treatment of many major health problems including cancer, heart disease, dementia and stroke. In addition to the benefits for human health, such research also helps us to better understand conditions affecting animals and develop treatments for them.



News

Creating brain cells from skin to study Alzheimer's

An early-career researcher at UCL has been awarded £900,000 for a stem cell study to develop new treatments for dementia. > [More...](#)



UCL commits to openness about animal research

UCL formally committed today to a policy of openness about animal research when Professor Michael Arthur (UCL President & Provost) signed the Concordat on Openness on Animal Research in the UK. > [More...](#)



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Animal research

The University of Oxford is one of the world's leading centres for biomedical research. It has consistently been at the forefront of innovative and life-saving science. Oxford researchers today study pressing health problems like cancer, stroke, heart disease, diabetes, HIV, malaria, tuberculosis, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, muscular dystrophy, autism, depression, and very many more diseases that cause suffering and death.



ANIMAL RESEARCH

[Research using animals: an overview](#)

[Medical research at Oxford](#)

[The Biomedical Sciences Building](#)

[Animal welfare](#)

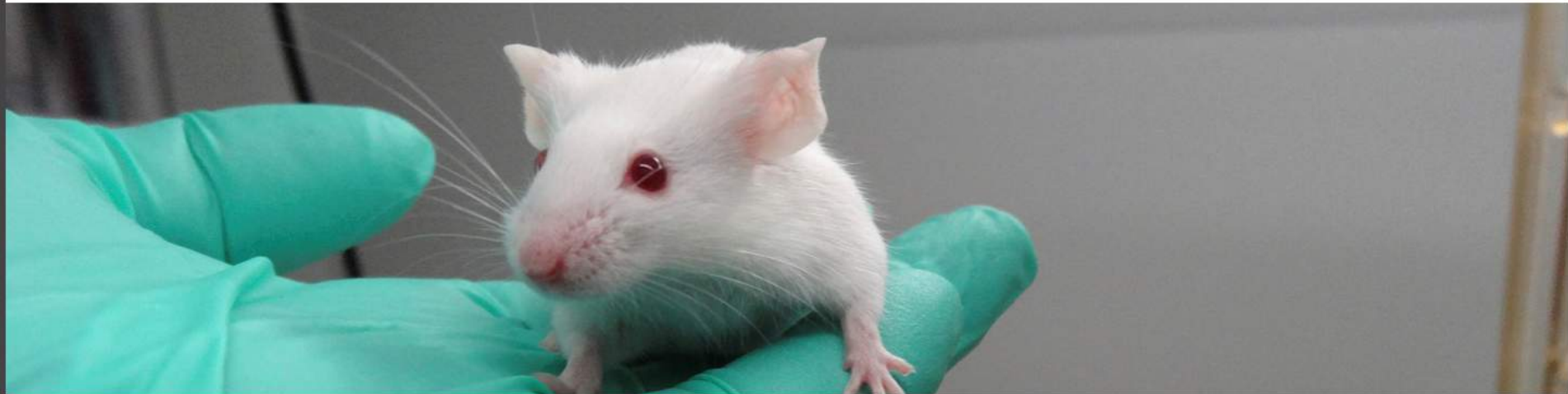
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- > INSTITUTE LIFE
- > ANIMAL RESEARCH
 - Animal Research Examples
 - Animal Research Frequently Asked Questions
 - Concordat on Openness in Animal Research

The need for animal research

Why animals are needed for research at the Babraham Institute

"Scientists only use animals when there is no alternative". This is a much-repeated phrase but what does it mean? Which animals? What alternatives? Why can't these replace all animal research? What do we find out using animals and why do we need to know this?

Babraham Institute scientists study fundamental processes in our cells: how they develop, survive, function, age and die. This basic biology underpins future medical advances, just as past research led to the treatments we receive today. The benefits will be felt in our children's and grandchildren's generations but without today's basic science there will be no foundation for tomorrow's medical research.

Mammals differ widely in size and shape but their cells and genes are broadly similar. Because of this, information from studies of mice or rats can be relevant to other mammals including humans, pets and farm animals.

[Here are some examples of what we have learned from animal research at Babraham.](#)

Links

[UNDERSTANDING ANIMAL RESEARCH](#)

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Research

Our research environment

Our research environment

[Supporting researchers](#)

[Working collaboratively](#)

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[Good practice and quality](#)

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Animal research

[Our animal care and welfare standards](#)

[Reduce, refine, replace](#)

[Public engagement](#)

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[Funding and awards](#)

Animal research



We are committed to providing open and transparent information about our research involving animals and our standards of animal care and welfare.

We have signed the [Concordat on Openness on Animal Research in the UK](#).

We use cells grown in a lab, computer models and human tissues for some of our biomedical research. However, in certain cases, animals provide the only way for us to develop our scientific knowledge and produce treatments and cures for many serious conditions. Research using animals has saved and improved the lives of millions of people and animals.

Replacement, reduction and refinement

Consideration of the 3Rs is the basis of everything we do related to animal research.

[Find out more about the 3Rs](#)

Related links

[The Home Office - Science Research and Statistics](#)

[National Centre for the Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animals in Research](#)

[Understanding Animal Research](#)

[Fund for the Replacement of Animals in Medical Experiments \(FRAME\)](#)

[The Institute of Animal Technology](#)

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ANIMAL RESEARCH

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Videos as well as photographs

The screenshot displays the University of Cambridge website's navigation and content structure. At the top, the University of Cambridge logo is on the left, followed by navigation links: 'Study at Cambridge', 'About the University', and 'Research at Cambridge'. To the right are 'Quick links' and a search bar. Below the navigation is a breadcrumb trail: 'Home / Research / Research at Cambridge / Animal research'. The main heading is 'Research', with a secondary navigation bar containing 'Home', 'News', 'Features', 'Discussion', 'Video and audio', 'Spotlight on...', 'Research at Cambridge', 'Innovation at Cambridge', and 'Research Impact'. The 'Research at Cambridge' dropdown menu is open, showing a list of categories: 'Research', 'Research at Cambridge', and 'Animal research'. Under 'Animal research', there are links for 'Our animal research', 'FAQs', 'Our policies', 'Further information', 'Report on the allegations and matters raised in the BUAV report', and 'Governance Review'. Below this is a section for 'Funding Agency Committee Members' and 'Research integrity'. The main content area features a video player titled 'Fighting cancer: Animal research at Cambridge' with a thumbnail image of a white mouse in a glass container. The video player shows a progress bar at 5:38 / 11:39 and includes standard YouTube controls. To the right of the video player is a 'Related downloads' section with a link to a report on BUAV allegations, and a 'Further links' section with links to the Home Office, Understanding animal research, and the National Centre for the Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animals in Research.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Study at Cambridge About the University Research at Cambridge Quick links Search

Home / Research / Research at Cambridge / Animal research

Research

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Animal research

Research ^

Research at Cambridge ^

Animal research

- > Our animal research
- > FAQs
- > Our policies
- > Further information
- > Report on the allegations and matters raised in the BUAV report
- > Governance Review

Funding Agency Committee Members

Research integrity

Fighting cancer: Animal research at Cambridge

5:38 / 11:39

Related downloads

- Report on the allegations and matters raised in the BUAV report: Neurological Research on Sheep at the University of Cambridge – June 2014

Further links

- Home Office
- Understanding animal research
- National Centre for the Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animals in Research

Far more detail than before....

How many animals are used?

Figures for 2016 show numbers of animals 'on procedure', as declared to the Home Office using their five categories for the severity of the procedure.

Severity	Mice	Rats	Ferrets	Guinea Pigs	Rabbits	NHPs#	Pigs	Badger*	Junglefowl	Xenopus	Zebrafish	Other fish	Total
Non-recovery	3723	657	11	68	0	0	0	0	0	0	57	0	4516
Mild	61382	465	0	13	0	0	0	60	291	226	3154	0	65591
Moderate	39015	531	18	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	1076	0	40648
Severe	1420	42	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	560	0	2022
Sub-threshold	94617	479	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	9890	0	104988
Total	200157	2174	29	81	2	8	0	60	291	226	14737	0	217765

NHPs - Non Human Primates

Research

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Spotlight on...

Research at Cambridge

Innovation at Cambridge

Research Impact

Non-human primates (marmosets and rhesus macaques)

Research

Research at Cambridge

Animal research

About our animal research

Which types of animals do we use?

Mice

Zebrafish

Rats

Xenopus

Domestic fowl

Guinea pigs

Sheep

Non-human primates (marmosets and rhesus macaques)

Other birds

Understanding the OCD Brain part 2: Animal research at Ca...



Why do we use non-human primates?

Monkeys and apes are our closest relatives in the animal kingdom, and because of their high cognitive abilities and complex social behaviour, biomedical research using these animals requires additional justification and high welfare standards.

Due to the high degree of genetic, anatomical and physiological conservation, non-human primates can be the best models for understanding human biological processes. They may be used to understand normal or abnormal structure and function or determine the efficacy of treatments where no other suitable animal models exist. Their use has led to

Research Horizons



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Virtual lab tour

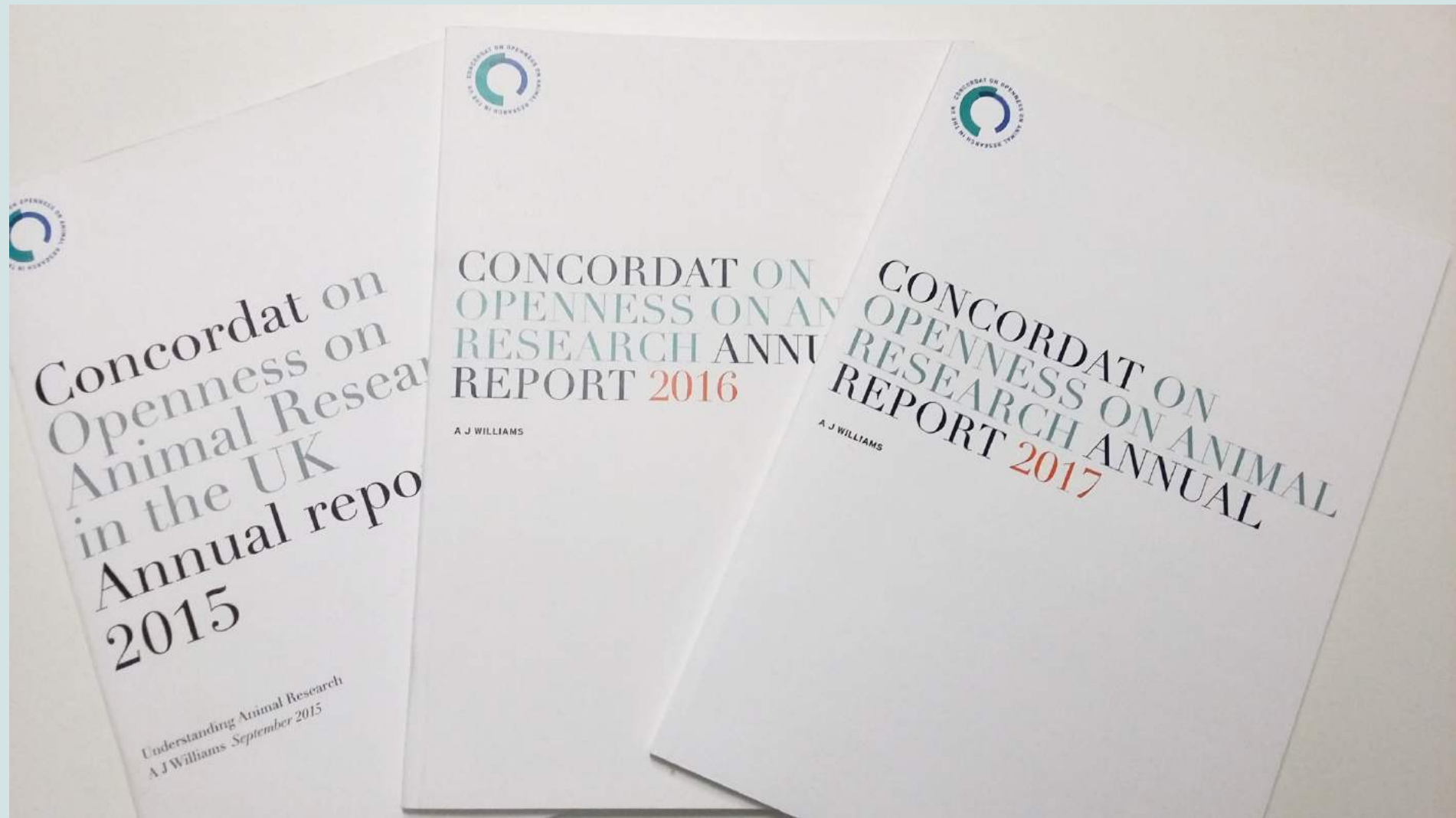


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UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL
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www.labanimaltour.org



Reports – 4th Commitment



Openness Awards



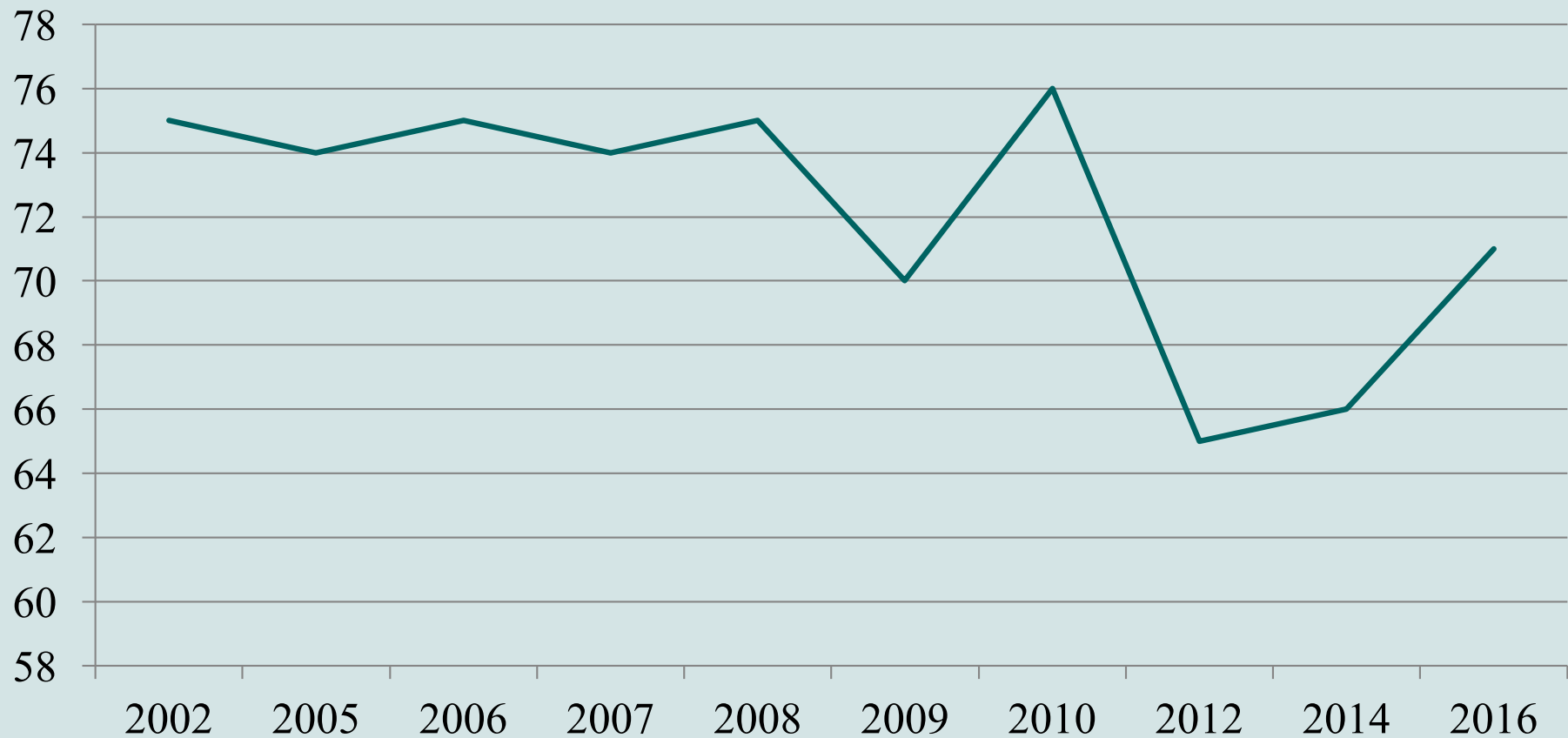
What has changed since the Concordat?

- Safety in numbers
- Top-level support within institutions
- Reducing reputational risk
- Moving from ‘head above the parapet’ to ‘odd one out – what have they got to hide?’
- Beginning to ‘normalise’ animal research – far fewer negative media stories
- Feeling that ‘anti’ groups are looking for new causes – far fewer protests

Animal rights groups changing focus

- Can't claim there's a lack of transparency
- Cosmetic testing outside Europe
- Veganism / welfare of animals in the food chain
- Opposition to badger cull
- Campaigns focused on companion animals
- No booths offering information against biomedical research at 2017 Labour Party Conference

% of GB public that can accept animal research 2002 - 2016



Protest in the UK - 2018



Melanie Light and Claire Palmer, of Animal Justice Project, protested against Bristol University's animal testing (Image: Michael Lloyd)

Broadening the Concordat concept

- The UK experience has been overwhelmingly positive
- Spain and Belgium have both translated the Concordat
- Portugal is planning to do so this year
- Could this approach work in the US?

Thank you

