



Australian Academy
of Health and
Medical Sciences

Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences

ABN 55 167 124 067

Gabba Towers, 411 Vulture Street, Woolloongabba, QLD 4102
PO Box 6114, Woolloongabba, QLD 4102

tel.: +61 (0) 7 3102 7220 · email: info@aaahms.org
aaahms.org

AAHMS post-hearing response: Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health on 16 May 2022 for the Use of primates and other animals in medical research in NSW

Question on notice (pg 5)

Anthony Cunningham: I am not aware, but certainly on our campus we have phased out any research using cats and dogs.

The Hon. Emma Hurst: How long ago did you phase out the use of cats and dogs?

Anthony Cunningham: Look, I would need to take that on notice but it's over a decade.

Answer

I have inquired and am informed that the Western Sydney Local Health District at Westmead stopped any pound research use in or around 1997-98 before the Companion Animals Act 1998 No 87 was introduced. No other active work has been done on pounds dogs since this time.

However, a rare breeding colony of dogs with fucosidosis as a model for this rare genetic disorder in children (characterized by deficiency of the enzyme alpha-L-fucosidase) was maintained until 22nd September 2008, while seeking homes for them after the last breeding of pups in January 2008.

I am not aware of any use of cats for research purposes within the jurisdiction over the same period.