INQUIRY INTO USE OF PRIMATES AND OTHER ANIMALS IN MEDICAL RESEARCH IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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Date Received: 21 February 2022

The recent Covid pandemic has seen the majority of trials, especially Pfizer, run on humans. This has proven to be most successful.

As someone who almost died from a rare illness I have taken many medications. All of which would have been tested on animals. More than 98% made me far sicker than the disease, which is saying something. Naturally we were extremely scared of what the Pfizer shot would do. But I was great. I responded like everyone else. This isn't normal for me. But it could be.

There are so many people living with chronic and acute illness that would be willing to do trials but companies refuse to do human trials until they have tests on rats, mice, and weirdly dogs & cats. None of these animals are the same as us. Hence giving a rat epilepsy and curing it, doesn't mean that will work on a human. Time and time again it doesn't. When will we learn this?

Testing on baboons for heart transplants and then wondering why a dogs heart doesn't work in a baboon isn't rocket science either, but for the purpose of my submission I'm going with my own experience.

I have been on so many medications as we looked for something to help me. Imagine if these drugs had been trialed on humans, like Pfizer has done in the pandemic - because we had to, and manufacturers got honest feedback while humans got healthy. Isn't this more sensible?

It's also cheaper. No animal labs. No bills for cleaners, good, cages, euthanasia. Just use people. Trust me, we would put our hand up to get help. We would trial to help us get well and what better feedback than from humans who can tell you exactly how it makes them feel. A dog, cat, pig, mouse cannot do that.

Animal experiments are outdated. There are skin cells to test on, stem cells, human trials, so many ways. We don't need to be using animals for anything anymore.

Thank you.

Savannah