

**Submission
No 240**

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

Organisation: JDRF Australia

Date Received: 31 March 2022

31st March, 2022

RE: Submission to inquiry in to use of primates and other animals in medical research in NSW

Dear Hon Greg Donnelly MLC,

We are writing to express our support for the continued use of animals in medical research in New South Wales, subject to appropriate ethical and regulatory oversight.

JDRF Australia represents 127,000 Australian children adults diagnosed with type one diabetes. Type one diabetes is a complex autoimmune disease, with a mix of genetic and environmental factors leading to its development. Despite substantial progress in treatment of the disease, we do not yet have a cure.

JDRF provides support for world leading medical research conducted in Australia and NSW towards the delivery of improved treatments, prevention, and ultimately a cure of type one diabetes. In this field of endeavour, animal models are an absolutely critical part of current research. The research challenges that need to be addressed for the ultimate delivery of a cure for type one diabetes include immunology, cell biology, transplantation, and many other complex research questions. For a large majority of these, it is not currently possible to move from theory and hypothesis to safe testing in humans in a single step. As a result, the appropriately regulated and ethically managed use of animals in research is essential to provide a foundation for progress, and eventually hopefully delivery of, a cure.

We accept and embrace the fact that such research must be conducted with strict ethical and animal welfare guidelines, and appropriate regulatory oversight. This is provided for through standard structures, and we support the active and thorough implementation these. We also work closely with other JDRF organisations and broader research organisations overseas towards the coordination of research planning such that any animal research undertaken is done in a manner that is not duplicative with other activities already underway elsewhere, minimising overall use.

We appreciate the close consideration being given by the Legislative Council to this important matter, and strongly urge that the appropriate ethical and regulated use of research animals is an essential part of delivering progress for many diseases such as type one diabetes, and more importantly a critical element in providing hope for a different future for all those affected and eventually a world without type one diabetes.

We would be happy to answer any questions or provide more specific information in relation to our research investments, the importance of animal models used appropriately in type one diabetes research, or understanding of international research in this area.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Wilson OAM | CEO, JDRF Australia & Lead, JDRF Global Project