

**Submission
No 304**

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

Name: Mr Jason Dodson

Date Received: 24 March 2022

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing as an individual member of the public with no particular affiliations and would like to thank you for taking the time to conduct this very important inquiry. I do not work as a scientist nor am I an expert in the field but have always held deep concerns that we live in a world where parts of the scientific community still consider models of animal experimentation to be acceptable despite the questionable translation of outcomes of this research to humans and the availability of robust alternative methodologies.

While I do not in any way discount the many wonderful advances made by science, I have never been able to accept that such advances should come at the expense (whether that is discomfort, distress, death or a plethora of other questionable research method consequences) of other, sentient non-human animals. The ability for non-human animals used in research and experimentation to perceive and feel things done to them during research is clearly spelt out in the literature and I therefore ask that the committee consider thoughtfully this as a starting point for any recommendations so that we can adequately protect against negative outcomes on research participants in the same way we currently do for human research participants.

I am pleased to see the breadth of the terms of reference for this inquiry and the opportunity they provide for detailed and considered responses from those on both sides of this issue. As a non-expert in this field I would simply like my submission to reflect support for the submission put forward, in its entirety, by Humane Research Australia, dated 2 March 2022. That submission reflects my own views on this topic and I support that submission whole-heartedly.

I would like to highlight however some of the priority issues raised in that submission and ask that the committee seriously consider these recommendations as particular priorities:

- The desperate need for greater transparency in animal research and evaluation of its outcomes
- The need for funding for the validation of non-animal research methods so that valid non-animal alternatives can replace non-human animal-based methodologies
- Immediate prohibition of the forced swim test and forced inhalation research.

Thank you for your time in reading my submission.