

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

Organisation: Humane Research Australia

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Additional information - Humane Research Australia (HRA)

HRA would like to correct the below as per our submission for term of reference f:

(f) overseas developments regarding the regulation and use of animals in medical research.

Belgium

The Brussels-Capital Region of Belgium, which encompasses the city of Brussels and 18 surrounding municipalities, officially banned commercial animal testing involving cats, dogs, and primates as of January 1, 2020

Correction: The ban was proposed some years ago by the Animal Welfare Minister of the Brussels Region but was finally not accepted by the Brussels government because of negative advice from the Belgian Council of State based on the EU-directive on the protection of animals used for experiments that does not allow a member state to take measures that go further than the directive itself.

Additional international developments:

[European Medicine Agency: EMA Regulatory Science to 2025 strategy.](#)

The strategy includes recommendations promoting the use and development of non-animal methods, and reducing and replacing animals in the testing of human and veterinary medicines.

Key actions within these recommendations include: the development of clear guidance to prioritise use of non-animal methods instead of traditional animal tests; strengthening cooperation between EU and international bodies to increase funding and access to non-animal methods; and the promotion of systematic reviews to reduce animal use.

Italy- [legislation is in place to prohibit basic \(fundamental\) research on non-human primates.](#) This is being contested by the EU.

Additional Reading:

Animal-reliance bias in publishing is a potential barrier to scientific progress Catharine E. Krebs, Ann Lam, Janine McCarthy, Helder Constantino, Kristie Sullivan bioRxiv 2022.03.24.485684; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.03.24.485684>

Hutchinson I, Owen C, Bailey J. Modernizing Medical Research to Benefit People and Animals. Animals. 2022; 12(9):1173. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ani12091173>

Soft copy of document tabled during evidence is attached: Bringing Back the Human: Transitioning from Animal Research to Human Relevant Science in the UK (2022) Report of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Human Relevant Science

Definition of Human-Relevant Research

There appears to be a misinterpretation that this implies directly testing on humans. Please see definition below.

Human- relevant research techniques include (among others) organs-on-a-chip (microdevices containing cells and fluids intended to simulate physiological processes in organs); organoids (three-dimensional spheroids containing multiple cell types and intended to simulate physiological processes); high-throughput systems (rapid screening of large numbers of chemicals for biological activity); induced pluripotent stem cells (adult cells that have been genetically reprogrammed to an embryonic stem cell-like state); and computational modeling (using computation to study the behaviour of complex systems).