



MEDICAL RESEARCH CHARITIES THAT **SUPPORT ANIMAL TESTING**

Many charities continue to test or fund laboratories and universities that use animals in research. Before giving your money to these charities, please look how they are spending your money because even if they are conducting valuable work in other fields, it is usually not possible to specify how your donation will be used.

Here is a list of charities who operate in the UK that either support or fund animal testing.

Action Medical Research

Statement

“Action Medical Research does not carry out research itself but supports research projects that take place in hospitals and universities in the UK. As a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities ... we support the principle of using animals in research.”

Action on Hearing Loss

Statement

“We’re dedicated to supporting biomedical research into treatments and cures for hearing loss and tinnitus. ... [I]n certain areas, animal research remains essential if we are to understand hearing loss and tinnitus and develop new and effective treatments.”

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Against Breast Cancer

Statement

“Against Breast Cancer fully supports the replacement, refinement and reduction of animals used in research wherever possible, and will only fund research that uses animal models when no viable non-animal alternative exists, that has been approved by a local ethics committee, that is fully compliant with current Home Office legislation or when animal welfare is ensured.”

Alzheimer’s Society

Statement

“Alzheimer’s Society is a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities ... and supports its position statement on the use of animals in research.

Alzheimer’s Society and its trustees believe that funding animal research is essential to understanding dementia and developing effective treatments.”

Anthony Nolan

Statement

“Anthony Nolan does not carry out any animal testing, nor do we currently fund research using animals. However, as a member of AMRC we support the principle of using animals in research when it is necessary to advance understanding of health and disease and to develop new treatments.”

Arthritis Research UK

Statement:

“Where there are no alternatives, we fund medical research which uses animals.”



Asthma UK

Statement

“Under certain circumstances, some of this research cannot be done without involving animals. Asthma UK understands and appreciates that people do have concerns about medical research involving animals, and charities providing funding support for it, and shares people’s concerns about the well-being of animals in medical research.”

Bloodwise

Statement

“We want to have the biggest impact for blood cancer patients. Because of this, we believe that using animals in research, in the right way, is the right thing to do.”

Bowel Cancer UK

Statement

“Bowel cancer is the fourth most common cancer in the UK and the second biggest cancer killer. It is vital that we support research that will allow us to diagnose people earlier and develop new and more effective treatments (including improvements to surgery). Some of this research may involve animals.”

Breast Cancer Now

Statement

“We support the principle of using animals in research when it is necessary to advance understanding of health and disease and to develop new treatments.”



British Heart Foundation

Statement

“Where there are no feasible alternatives, we fund research involving animals as part of a broad spectrum of science”

British Lung Foundation

Statement

“We support the principle of using animals in research when it is necessary to advance understanding of health and disease and to develop new treatments.”

Brittle Bone Society

Statement

“The Charity recognises that experiments on living animals are an essential part of research to improve the understanding and treatment of human and animal disease.”

The British Scoliosis Research Foundation

Statement

“The BSRF, as a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities, follows the AMRC ‘Guidelines on Good Research Practice’ which cover ethical practices for animal and human research, intellectual property, researcher integrity, publication practice, supervision and training of researchers, amongst other matters.”

Chest, Heart & Stroke Scotland

Statement

“CHSS is a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC). All AMRC members support the AMRC statement on animal research.”



Children With Cancer UK

Statement

“Children with Cancer UK is a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities We support the principle of using animals in research when it is necessary to advance understanding of health and disease and to develop new treatments; we want to find improved treatments that will cure even the hardest-to-treat forms of childhood cancer, causing minimal side effects for the child. This research only takes place where there is no alternative available; projects are only funded by us after rigorous assessment that specifically addresses the proposed use of animals.”

Core

Statement

“Core follows AMRC’s statement on supporting research in universities and AMRC’s statement on the use of animals in research.”

Crohn’s and Colitis UK

Statement

“As a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC)...., any application involving animals will be judged in accordance with 3R principles (replacement, refinement and reduction) as part of the peer review process.”

Cystic Fibrosis Trust

Statement

“We only fund animal research if it has been clearly demonstrated that there are no alternatives.”



DEBRA

Statement

“Where possible we favour the use of non-animal experimental approaches to finding a cure for EB such as cultured cells or human skin equivalents, but there are instances where animal models are necessary.”

Diabetes UK

Statement

“We only fund animal research when there is no alternative available”

Encephalitis Society

Statement

“The Encephalitis Society supports the position of the Association of Medical Research Charities on the issue of using animals in research.

“The Society will only consider funding applications for research that tests on animals on a case-by-case basis, where there is evidence of no other model or known alternative, and only for studies being conducted in the UK.”

Epilepsy Research UK

Statement

“We believe it [animal experimentation] is an important part of the research process to advance understanding of serious health conditions and to develop better treatments, but that it should only be used when there is no alternative.”

Heart Research UK

Statement

“As a member [of the Association of Medical Research Charities], Heart Research UK follows high standards to ensure that we fund research of the highest quality.”

Kidney Research UK

Statement

“As a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities ... we support the principle of using animals in research

“From time to time we do approve grants for projects involving animal experimentation.”

Marie Curie

Statement

“Marie Curie carries out and funds research into better ways of caring for people living with a terminal illness (palliative care research).

“The charity does not carry out or fund research involving animals.

“Marie Curie is a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC), and accepts the AMRC position statement on the use of animals in research.”

The Migraine Trust

Statement

“The Migraine Trust does not undertake research itself but funds scientists and researchers to carry out this work....The Migraine Trust therefore supports the use of animals in migraine research where no alternative exists and where it is carried out according to best practice as laid down in legislation.”

Motor Neurone Disease Association

Statement

“Approximately two thirds of the research projects we fund do not involve the use of animals. With those that do, we and the researchers we fund are committed to ensuring that the welfare of the animals is considered at all times.”



MS Society

Statement

“We support the principle of using animals in research when it is necessary to advance understanding of health and disease and to develop new treatments.”

Muscular Dystrophy UK

Statement

“Muscular Dystrophy UK funds research which utilises a wide variety of methods, some of which involve the use of animals. Muscular Dystrophy UK will not fund animal research unless it is essential and there is no alternative.”

National Osteoporosis Society

Statement

“Research involving animals has been fundamental to understanding how the body functions in health and disease and to the development of modern medicines and surgical procedures. Such research has provided and continues to provide the essential foundation for improvements in medical knowledge, education and practice.”

Parkinson’s UK

Statement

“We believe that the use of animals is currently essential in helping us improve treatments and find a cure for Parkinson’s.”

Scleroderma & Raynaud’s UK

Statement

“SRUK supports the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC) position statement on the use of animals in research.”

Spinal Research

Statement

“Spinal Research recognises that for complex multisystem diseases and pathologies, such as spinal cord injury, it is sometimes necessary to use animals as part of the overall research endeavour.”

WellChild

Statement

“Please note: we do not currently fund research using animals. However, as a member of The Association of Medical Research Charities ... we do support the principle of using animals in research”

Wellcome Trust

Statement

“Wellcome supports the use of animals in research if the potential health benefits are compelling, appropriate welfare standards are met and where there are no alternatives.”

Worldwide Cancer Research

Statement

“Worldwide Cancer Research recognises that animal research is still essential if further progress is to be made in cancer medicine.”

These charities are part of the AMRC (Association of Medical Research Charities**)**

Statement

“The AMRC brings together and supports health and medical charities to produce high-quality research. We do this by influencing policy and research, and highlighting the sector’s contribution to patient and public health.”



CBUK response:

“Some people suggest that animal experiments are a ‘necessary evil’ in finding cures that kill people we care for and love but this is not the case and in fact, the opposite is true. Animals as ‘models’ in science and human disease has misled findings and delayed medical progress for years. The symptoms that are artificially induced in animals are never exactly the same as the real human version and most importantly, the cause isn’t the same either – therefore any potential cure wouldn’t be the same either, meaning years of wasted research and unnecessary pain to the thousands of animals.

Non-animal research techniques have offered us the best contributions to modern medicine; clinical observation (monitoring patients), epidemiology (linking lifestyle factors with disease), human tissue research, organ and tissue culture, computer modelling and advanced technologies such as MRI scanners and ultrasound.

The public are increasingly turning towards wanting non-allopathic therapies, based on holistic models of health and disease with the focus on strengthening and nourishing the body’s immune defences rather than waging a ‘self-destructive’ high tech war on pathogens, tumours and the like. All of these medical tools and techniques and many more have improved our ability to treat patients – and they owe absolutely nothing to animal experimentation.

We have to stop investing valuable time, money and resource into archaic animal experiments that don’t work, when we now have proven human-based research methods readily available to us which provide accurate results. Every living creature would benefit if animal experiments were stopped tomorrow – we would have safer drugs and greater focus and investment in productive research techniques. In addition, more investment into health education would offer huge benefits as we know prevention is ultimately the best medicine and the premature onset of most illnesses, including cancer and heart disease, is largely (at least 80%) preventable.”

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