



\$PENDING TO DEATH

**Wasteful Government Spending,
Transparency Failures, and the Secretive
World of Federal Dog Experiments**



**WHITE COAT
WASTE**



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and the Secretive World of Federal Dog Experiments

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A report by



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REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- 1,100+ beagles, hounds and mixed-breed dogs—even puppies—are subjected to painful, bizarre and wasteful experiments inside federal agency laboratories each year
- Taxpayers are forced to pay for these experiments without knowing what's being done, why and how much of their money is being spent
- Five federal agencies—NIH, VA, DOD, CDC and FDA—spend untold millions on dog experiments including exposing dogs to anthrax, forcing them to suffer heart attacks and drilling into their skulls
- New polling shows that a majority of Americans—Republicans and Democrats alike—want these experiments phased out, their funding cut and spending data about taxpayer-funded animal experiments to be publicly available

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Government Accountability Office has stated, “For decades...the public has been concerned that dogs and cats used in research could be treated inhumanely....”¹

Indeed, in 1966, the U.S. Congress passed the primary federal law governing the use of animals in laboratories—the Animal Welfare Act²—in response to public outcry about the inhumane procurement and treatment of dogs destined for experimentation laboratories. Specifically, *LIFE*³ and *Sports Illustrated*⁴ ran features exposing dealers who collected lost and stolen dogs and sold them to laboratories. At the time, *LIFE* reported that it received more letters about this article than any other in the magazine's history.

Unfortunately, half a century after the creation of the AWA, the federal government secretly still conducts and funds invasive, bizarre, wasteful and deadly laboratory experiments on dogs.

The White Coat Waste Project (WCW) reviewed public records that reveal that each year, federal agency laboratories purchase beagles, hounds and mixed-breed dogs—even puppies—just to cut them apart, infect them, make them sick, and kill them in taxpayer-funded experiments.

¹ U.S. Government Accountability Office. (2010, September 24). USDA's Oversight of Dealers of Random Source Dogs and Cats Would Benefit from Additional Management Information and Analysis. Retrieved November 5, 2016, from <http://www.gao.gov/assets/320/310004.pdf>

² Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966, P.L. 89-544. Retrieved from USDA Animal Welfare Information Center.

³ Cosgrove, B. (2014, November 20). “Concentration camps for dogs”: Revisiting a grisly LIFE classic. Retrieved November 5, 2016, from Time, <http://time.com/3589751/concentration-camps-for-dogs-revisiting-a-grisly-life-classic/>

⁴ Phinizy, C. (1965, November 29). The Lost Pets That Stray to the Labs. *Sports Illustrated*. Retrieved from <http://www.si.com/vault/1965/11/29/612645/the-lost-pets-that-stray-to-the-labs>

Our analysis shows that in FY15, inside the federal government's own laboratories, more than 1,100 dogs were used in experiments conducted by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Department of Defense (DOD), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMC).⁵

As this report demonstrates, this contentious practice continues with little transparency and accountability to taxpayers and Congress. With very few exceptions, the agencies receiving tax money to conduct these studies fail to disclose what they are doing, how much they are spending, the purpose or outcome, or what happens to the puppies and adult dogs unfortunate enough to be the subjects. In many cases, it appears agencies intentionally omit or obscure information to prevent scrutiny.

Moreover, these experiments persist despite opposition from a majority of American taxpayers. New polls show that 59% of Americans want to cut taxpayer funding for experiments on dogs, 75% of people want them phased out altogether and 66% want spending information on all taxpayer-funded animal experiments to be publicly available. These concerns coincide with growing acknowledgement by federal agencies that taxpayer-funded animal experiments are slow, expensive and rarely translate to improvements in human health.

WCW offers the following recommendations to improve transparency about federal dog experimentation and help reduce potential waste and abuse associated with this practice:

1. **Provide Transparency:** Ensure that all federal agencies conducting experiments on dogs and other animals accurately and regularly report to taxpayers the details of all past and current projects, their purpose, results and their cost to taxpayers
2. **Audit Spending:** Congress should independently audit the cost, scale and scope of dog experimentation programs in federal laboratories
3. **Close Loopholes:** Close loopholes that allow federal spending on dog experiments that are unnecessary or duplicative or that can be replaced with less expensive non-animal research methods

⁵ This report focuses on the use of dogs inside of government agency laboratories and does not cover the additional 60,000 dogs used in experiments at universities and other external laboratories that also receive taxpayer funding.

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Number of Dogs Used in Federal Agency Laboratories

Data available to taxpayers and Congress about the current use of dogs in federal laboratories is extremely limited.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is responsible for enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act, which includes a requirement for regulated experimentation laboratories—including those operated by the federal government—to report some data on the use of dogs in experiments to the USDA. This required information is limited to the total number of dogs held and used for experiments and the pain and distress category of the experiments to which each dog was subject.⁶

Dogs used in federal laboratories in FY15

According to USDA records, in FY15, 1,183 dogs were held or used in experiments in federal laboratories operated by five different government agencies: the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Department of Defense (DOD), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMC) (Table 1).^{7,8} Twenty-five percent of these dogs (294) were used in experiments involving significant pain and distress (USDA Pain Category D), including invasive surgeries to implant experimental equipment, intentionally induced heart attacks, and the use of drills on their skulls.

TABLE 1
FEDERAL AGENCIES EXPERIMENTING ON DOGS

Agency	Total FY14 Dogs in Federal Labs (Used in Category D)	Total FY15 Dogs in Federal Labs (Used in Category D)
<i>CDC</i>	21 (0)	295 (7)
<i>DOD</i> ⁹	44 (40)	81 (81)
<i>NIH</i>	301 (215)	695 (146)
<i>VAMC</i>	146 (131)	104 (52)
<i>FDA</i>	0	8 (8)
	512 (386)	1183 (294)

⁶ USDA Pain and Distress Categories: Category B=held but not used; Category C=slight or no pain and distress; Category D=pain and distress that is treated; category E=unrelieved pain and distress. USDA Form 7023. Available at: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/library/forms/pdf/APHIS_7023.pdf

⁷ For this report, "federal laboratories" are defined as facilities that are registered with USDA as "V" facilities (denoting Department of Veterans Affairs laboratories) and "F" facilities (denoting all other federal laboratories)

⁸ A total of 61,101 dogs were held and used in USDA-regulated laboratories across the U.S. in FY15. Of these, 20,668 dogs (33.8%) were used in experiments involving pain and distress (Category D), and another 362 dogs were subjected to painful experiments in which pain relief was intentionally withheld (Category E). Data available at: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/downloads/7023/Annual-Reports-FY2015.pdf

⁹ For 2014 and 2015, dogs reported by the Daniel E. Holland Military Working Dog Hospital (65 and 112, for those years respectively) were excluded.

Table 1 contains dog use details on the part of federal agencies for FY14 and FY15, the only years for which this information is currently available on the USDA website.

In FY14 and FY15, the 1,183 dogs used in federal laboratories were located in ten different facilities across the country (Table 2).

TABLE 2
INDIVIDUAL FEDERAL LABORATORIES USING DOGS

Facility Name	Agency	Total FY14 Dogs in Labs (Dogs in Pain Category D)	Total FY15 Dogs in Labs (Dogs in Pain Category D)
<i>CDC</i>	CDC	21 (0)	295 (7)
<i>US Army Medical Department Center and School</i>	DOD	44 (40)	81 (81)
<i>White Oak Animal Program</i>	FDA	0	8 (8)
<i>NIH</i>	NIH	301 (215)	695 (146)
<i>Edward Hines Jr VA Hospital</i>	VA	6 (6)	9 (9)
<i>West Los Angeles VAMC</i>	VA	36 (27)	36 (3)
<i>Zablocki VAMC</i>	VA	0	27 (18)
<i>Oklahoma City VAMC</i>	VA	6 (6)	0
<i>Richmond VAMC</i>	VA	31 (25)	22 (22)
<i>Iowa City VAMC</i>	VA	67 (67)	8 (0)
<i>Decatur VAMC</i>	VA	0	2 (0)
		512 (386)	1183 (294)

Lack of Public Information About Individual Dogs Used

Federal agencies do not currently publicly report the breed, age or origin of the dogs they use in experiments.¹⁰ However, it is widely acknowledged that beagles are the most common dogs used in laboratories because of their small size and docile temperament, the same qualities that make them beloved pets.¹¹

¹⁰As of FY2015, NIH laboratories are forbidden from purchasing dogs from “random source” dealers who were documented as having rounded up lost, stolen and homeless animals and illegally selling them to taxpayer-funded laboratories for experiments. However, dogs from these dealers comprised a small minority of those in laboratories and procurement from other suppliers has continued. NIH policy statement prohibiting use of “random source” dealers: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-14-034.html>

¹¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Research Integrity. (2004). Dogs. Retrieved November 5, 2016, from Office of Research Integrity, <http://ori.hhs.gov/education/products/ncstate/dog.htm>

Most of the dogs used in research are beagles due to their convenient size and docile nature. Lab being highly genetically selected for research needs, pigs unique in their use as a food source, d Because of this emotional tie that many feel toward dogs, their use in research has been an area

Source: NIH Office of Research Integrity

A review of USASpending.gov identified several recent contracts for the purchase of beagle, hound and mixed-breed adult dogs and puppies—as young as ten months old—for use in experiments by NIH and Veterans Affairs (Table 3). Such details are available only by chance because federal agencies are not required to report contract specifics such as species or number of animals being purchased. Many of the government’s contracts for animals on USASpending.gov generically state they are for “research animals.”¹² Thus, it remains impossible to ascertain how many dogs the government is buying, from where, and what it costs taxpayers.

TABLE 3
Sample of federal contracts for the purchase of puppies and adult dogs

Year	Agency	Dogs Purchased	Cost to Taxpayers
2016	NIH	“Research canine”	\$5,455 ¹³
2016	VA	“Three male mongrels”	\$4,207 ¹⁴
2015	NIH	“Beagle canine: (male), 10-13 kgs, 2 years old”	\$13,795 ¹⁵
2015	NIH	“Canine (houndx) male, 10-13 months/15-35 kgs”	\$5,490 ¹⁶

¹² USASpending.gov. (2016). Advanced Data Search [Results Summary]. Retrieved from <https://www.usaspending.gov/Pages/AdvancedSearch.aspx?sub=y&ST=C,G,L,O&FY=2017,2016,2015,2014,2013,2012,2011,2010,2009,2008&SS=USA&k=%22research+animals%22&SB=AD&SD=DESC>

¹³ USASpending.gov. (2016). Oak Hill Genetics, LLC [Transaction Details]. Retrieved from <https://www.usaspending.gov/transparency/Pages/TransactionDetails.aspx?RecordID=009EFA0B-73F8-48DA-8E6C-31EA7507507F&AwardID=51648702&AwardType=C>

¹⁴ USASpending.gov. (2016). Oak Hill Genetics, LLC [Transaction Details]. Retrieved from <https://www.usaspending.gov/transparency/Pages/TransactionDetails.aspx?RecordID=B5B94ABF-D989-438F-9AD8-9B7864446074&AwardID=51516034&AwardType=C>

¹⁵ USASpending.gov. (2015). Covance Research Products Inc. [Transaction Details]. Retrieved from <https://www.usaspending.gov/transparency/Pages/TransactionDetails.aspx?RecordID=17EDC209-A777-415D-882B-5885A6FD4EE5&AwardID=44135227&AwardType=C>

¹⁶ USASpending.gov. (2015). Covance Research Products Inc. [Transaction Details]. Retrieved from <https://www.usaspending.gov/transparency/Pages/TransactionDetails.aspx?RecordID=1A32FF31-0262-ED14-2CF0-573BCC9A76FF&AwardID=25403586&AwardType=C>

COVANCE RESEARCH PRODUCTS INC. HHSN26300011

– AMOUNTS

Obligated Amount \$5,490
Current Contract Value \$5,490

– PURCHASER

Major Agency 7500: Department of Health and Human Services
Major Funding Agency 7500: Department of Health and Human Services
Contracting Office Agency ID 7529: NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
Contracting Office ID 00263: NIH, OD, OM OALM OALMMP OFC ACQUISITION
MGMT&POLICY
Funding Requesting Agency ID 7529: NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
Funding Requesting Office ID 00263: NIH, OD, OM OALM OALMMP OFC ACQUISITION
MGMT&POLICY
Foreign Funding X

– CONTRACT INFORMATION

Signed Date 2/5/2015
Effective Date 2/5/2015
Current Completion Date 9/30/2015
Ultimate Completion Date 9/30/2015
Award Type C: DELIVERY ORDER
Type of Contract Pricing J: FIRM FIXED PRICE
UninitiatedAction X
Multi-Year Contract Y: YES
Performance Based Service Contract X: NOT APPLICABLE
Contingency Humanitarian Peacekeeping Operation X: NOT APPLICABLE
Contract Pricing Data N: No
Contract Description CANINE (HOUNDX) MALE, 10-13 MONTHS/15-35 KGS
Purchase Card As Payment Method N: NO
Number of Actions 1

Source: USASpending.gov

OAK HILL GENETICS, LLC VA25016P1321

– AMOUNTS

Obligated Amount \$4,207
Current Contract Value \$4,207

– PURCHASER

Major Agency 3600: Department of Veterans Affairs
Major Funding Agency 3600: Department of Veterans Affairs
Contracting Office Agency ID 3600: VETERANS AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF
Contracting Office ID 36F250: 250F NCO 10 NON VA CARE (00250F)
Funding Requesting Agency ID 3600: VETERANS AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF
Funding Requesting Office ID 36C541: 541-BRECKSVILLE (00541)
Foreign Funding X

– CONTRACT INFORMATION

Signed Date 5/31/2016
Effective Date 6/1/2016
Current Completion Date 7/8/2016
Ultimate Completion Date 7/8/2016
Award Type B: PURCHASE ORDER
Type of Contract Pricing J: FIRM FIXED PRICE
UninitiatedAction X
Performance Based Service Contract X: NOT APPLICABLE
Contingency Humanitarian Peacekeeping Operation X: NOT APPLICABLE
Contract Description THREE MALE MONGRELS
Purchase Card As Payment Method N: NO
Number of Actions 1
National Interest Action Code NONE: NONE

Source: USASpending.gov

Recent journal articles published by government experimenters, discussed in more detail in the section below, also show beagles, mixed-breed and hounds as the breeds of choice in these experiments.

Unavailable or Incomplete Details on How Dogs Are Used

Details on what is being done to dogs in federal laboratories are not easily accessible, not discernable and in many cases completely unavailable. This lack of transparency is pervasive in all aspects of federal dog experimentation examined in this report.

This is a long-standing concern. In 1998, a GAO report criticized DOD's animal research database (which was shut down a decade ago) for publishing information that was "inaccurate, incomplete, and inconsistent, resulting in inadequate public disclosure."¹⁷ A subsequent GAO review found the same problems, concluding, "Without such information, neither Congress nor the public have an adequate basis for understanding and assessing the reasons DOD uses animals in its research."¹⁸ This transparency problem for DOD and other agencies has only gotten worse since 1999.

NIH is only agency with robust public information on dog experiments

Of the five agencies currently conducting experiments on dogs, NIH is the only one that maintains a database (the NIH Intramural Database¹⁹) providing taxpayers access to information about current research projects being conducted by the agency.

A search on the NIH Intramural Database for the keywords "dog OR dogs OR canis OR canine OR beagle OR hound OR mongrel" brings up 31 different projects for FY16 (See Appendix X).²⁰ However, a review of the projects appears to indicate that only 12 involve invasive laboratory experiments on dogs.²¹ Ten of the projects involve clinical research with volunteer pets, and the remaining nine simply mention dogs in other contexts.

The current projects involving invasive dog experimentation in NIH laboratories include:

- Massive bleeding and shock: Two-year-old beagles were infected with pneumonia to induce septic shock^{22,23} and subjected to "experimental massive acute hemorrhage"^{24,25} to assess transfusion techniques. Any "survivors" who didn't die during the experiments were killed and dissected at the end.

¹⁷ U.S. Government Accountability Office. (1998, December). DOD Animal Research: Improvements Needed in Quality of Biomedical Research Database. Retrieved from <http://gao.gov/assets/230/226802.pdf>

¹⁸ U.S. Government Accountability Office. (1999, July). DOD Animal Research: Controls on Animal Use Are Generally Effective, but Improvements Are Needed. Retrieved from <http://gao.gov/assets/230/227538.pdf>

¹⁹ NIH Intramural Database. (2016). Retrieved from <http://intramural.nih.gov/search/index.taf>

²⁰ Project numbers: AI000932; BC006161; BC010350; BC010566; BC010655; BC010759; BC010953; BC011689; BC011692; BC011696; CL001195; CL008060; CL008063; CL008074; CL009013; CL090015; CL090024; CL090026; CL090033; CL090035; DA000555; DE000740; DK025093; EY000474; HG200345; HG200365; HG200377; HL006137; MH002032; SC01038; TR000249

²¹ Project numbers: AI000932; BC010655; CL090035; CL090033; CL009013; CL090026; CL00804; CL090024; C001195; HL006137; DK025093; SC010384

²² NIH Intramural Database. (2016). Is there a difference between transfusing old vs fresh blood in critical illness [Research Report]. Retrieved from <http://intramural.nih.gov/search/searchview.taf?ipid=93287&ts=1478167282>

²³ Cortés-Puch, I., Remy, K. E., Solomon, S. B., Sun, J., Wang, D., Al-Hamad, M., ... Natanson, C. (2015). In a canine pneumonia model of exchange transfusion, altering the age but not the volume of older red blood cells markedly alters outcome. *Transfusion*, 55(11), 2564–2575. doi:10.1111/trf.13275

²⁴ NIH Intramural Database. (2016). Difference between transfusing old blood vs. fresh blood during acute hemorrhage [Research Report]. Retrieved from <http://intramural.nih.gov/search/searchview.taf?ipid=93196&ts=1478171318>

²⁵ Solomon, S. B., Cortés-Puchlrene, Sun, J., Remy, K. E., Wang, D., Feng, J., ... Natanson, C. (2015). Transfused older stored red blood cells improve the clinical course and outcome in a canine lethal hemorrhage and reperfusion model. *Transfusion*, 55(11), 2552–2563. doi:10.1111/trf.13213

- Forced heart attacks: Mixed-breed dogs had “snares” implanted around their coronary arteries that were then tightened to induce heart attacks, after which the dogs underwent MRIs and were then killed and dissected.^{26,27}
- Anthrax: Beagles were exposed to “lethal doses” of anthrax to test an anthrax vaccine already approved by FDA since 2012.^{28,29,30}
- Infection by flies: Beagles were intentionally infected with the deadly virus *Leishmaniasis* by having capsules full of infected sand flies strapped to their bare skin, causing months of ulcerative skin lesions (see Figures 1-3). The dogs were continually exposed to the flies every two months for 22 months and finally killed and dissected^{31,32}

Below are photos of beagles included in a paper published by the NIH experimenters conducting the studies in which the dogs were infected with *Leishmaniasis*



Capsule of infected flies strapped to beagles' necks in NIH experiment

Source: Aslan et al 2016

²⁶ NIH Intramural Database. (2016). Quantification of Myocardial Perfusion [Research Report]. Retrieved from <http://intramural.nih.gov/search/searchview.taf?ipid=94745&ts=1478167282>

²⁷ van der Pals, J., Hammer-Hansen, S., Nielles-Vallespin, S., Kellman, P., Taylor, J., Kozlov, S., ... Arai, A. E. (2015). Temporal and spatial characteristics of the area at risk investigated using computed tomography and T 1 - weighted magnetic resonance imaging. *European Heart Journal – Cardiovascular Imaging*, 16(11), 1232–1240. doi:10.1093/ehjci/jev072

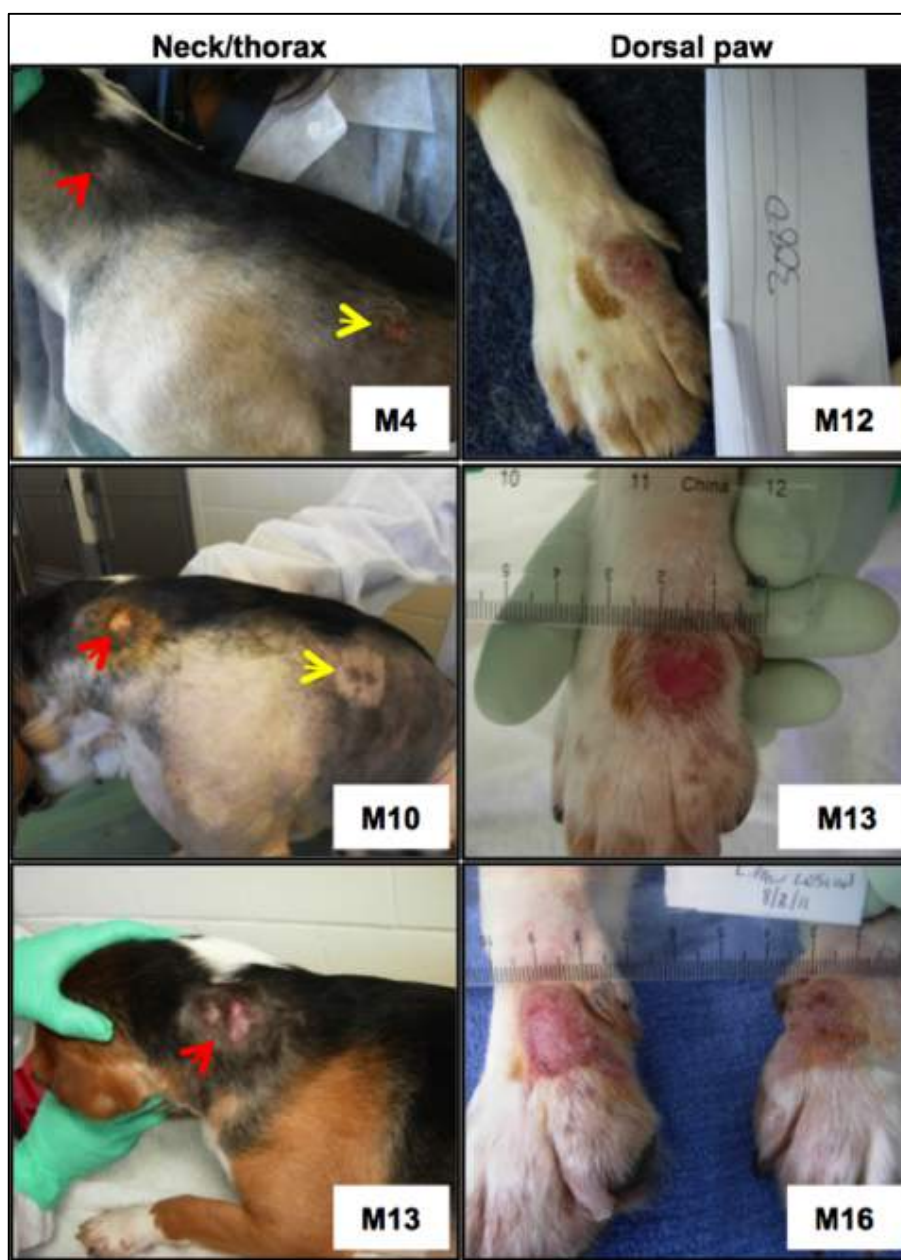
²⁸ NIH Intramural Database. (2016). Hemodynamic and anti-Toxin Treatments in Anthrax Lethal Toxin Challenged Canines [Research Report]. Retrieved from <http://intramural.nih.gov/search/searchview.taf?ipid=93285&ts=1478167282>

²⁹ NIH Intramural Database. (2016). Testing the effects of Anthrax Immune Globulin (AIG) in a Canine Model of B. anthracis Toxin Associated Shock [Research Report]. Retrieved from <http://intramural.nih.gov/search/searchview.taf?ipid=93317&ts=1478167282>

³⁰ Remy, K. E., Cui, X., Li, Y., Sun, J., Solomon, S. B., Fitz, Y., ... Eichacker, P. Q. (2015). Raxibacumab augments hemodynamic support and improves outcomes during shock with B. Anthracis edema toxin alone or together with lethal toxin in canines. *Intensive Care Medicine Experimental*, 3(1), . doi:10.1186/s40635-015-0043-4

³¹ NIH Intramural Database. (2016). Molecular approaches to understand vector-host and vector-pathogen interactions [Research Report]. Retrieved from <http://intramural.nih.gov/search/searchview.taf?ipid=95190&ts=1478167282>

³² Aslan, H., Oliveira, F., Meneses, C., Castrovinci, P., Gomes, R., Teixeira, C., ... Kamhawi, S. (2016). New insights into the Transmissibility of *Leishmania infantum* From dogs to sand flies: Experimental vector-transmission reveals persistent parasite depots at bite sites. *Journal of Infectious Diseases*, 213(11), 1752–1761. doi:10.1093/infdis/jiw022



Lesions on beagles from intentional Leishmaniasis infection in NIH experiment
Source: Aslan et al 2016

Other agencies

Aside from the NIH, neither the FDA, VA, CDC nor DOD have public databases of information about the experiments they currently conduct on dogs, or any of their intramural research.

The Federal RePORTER³³ and NIH RePORTER database,³⁴ which will be discussed in more detail in the funding section below, is supposed to contain information about all

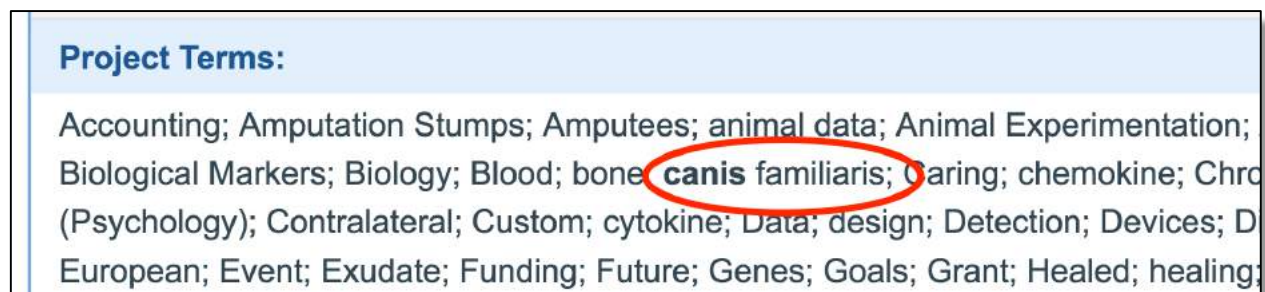
³³ Federal RePORTER Database. Retrieved from <https://federalreporter.nih.gov>

current research projects conducted and funded by agencies including NIH, DOD, FDA, VA and CDC.³⁵ The review conducted for this report found extensive gaps in the information available on agencies' dog experiments via this database.

Incomplete information about VA experiments on dogs

An NIH RePORTER search of VA projects using keywords “dog OR dogs OR canine OR canis OR beagle OR hound OR mongrel” identified only four projects labeled as “active.”³⁶ However, the abstracts for these projects do not contain any mention of dogs or experiments on them. Of the four, one abstract appears to describe a clinical trial in humans,³⁷ one describes experiments on goats,³⁸ one states “studies have been conducted in animals in the past,”³⁹ and the last only describes experiments in rabbits.⁴⁰

The only indication of potential dog use in the “Project Description” for each of the four active programs is the inclusion of the term “canis familiaris” in the list of keywords. Because this is a pattern across reports for all VA facilities, it appears to be a coordinated attempt by VA to obscure the fact that the agency is experimenting on dogs.



Source: NIH RePORTER

³⁴ NIH RePORTER Database. (2016). Retrieved from <https://projectreporter.nih.gov/reporter.cfm>

³⁵ Harvard University. (2014, October 2). Federal RePORTER, now with more agencies. Retrieved November 6, 2016, from FAS Research Administration Services, <http://research.fas.harvard.edu/news/federal-reporter-now-more-agencies>

³⁶ NIH RePORTER Database. (2016). VA projects [Search Results]. Retrieved from https://projectreporter.nih.gov/Reporter_Viewsh.cfm?sl=12E8CE034E88CED77598B8961CAA4A01A2FFCEB861BF

³⁷ Microbiome and Innate Immunity with Percutaneous Osseointegrated Prostheses. (2016). Retrieved November 8, 2016, from https://projectreporter.nih.gov/project_info_details.cfm?aid=9133179&icde=31780580.

³⁸ Mechanisms of Ventilatory Adaptations to Chronic Hypercapnia. (2016). Retrieved November 8, 2016, from https://projectreporter.nih.gov/project_info_description.cfm?aid=9032082&icde=31780580&ddparam=&ddvalue=&dds ub=&cr=2&csb=default&cs=ASC

³⁹ BLR&D Research Career Scientist Application. (2016). Retrieved November 8, 2016, from https://projectreporter.nih.gov/project_info_description.cfm?aid=9233565&icde=31780580&ddparam=&ddvalue=&dds ub=&cr=3&csb=default&cs=ASC

⁴⁰ A Pre-Clinical Model for the Rehabilitation of Cpap-Intolerant Obstructive Sleep Apnea. (2016). Retrieved November 8, 2016, from https://projectreporter.nih.gov/project_info_description.cfm?aid=9030638&icde=31780580&ddparam=&ddvalue=&dds ub=&cr=4&csb=default&cs=ASC

Additionally, not a single current or past VA project involving dog experiments has reported results or publications in the NIH RePORTER database (unlike the NIH projects in the database).

Similarly, a search on the Federal RePORTER website⁴¹ for the same terms also identifies four projects apparently involving experiments on dogs (another two are related to dog adoption for veterans with PTSD). These project listings also do not contain any funding information or results. The abstracts here do more clearly identify that dogs are being used for experiments involving cough, “deadly” intentionally-induced heart ailments and invasive brain procedures to study breathing.

While NIH and Federal RePORTER are missing information about the methods and results of the VA’s experiments on dogs, a review of scientific journals did identify several recent journal articles describing disturbing VA experiments on dogs, though we have no data on what they cost taxpayers:

- Constipation: Female hound dogs were surgically implanted with electrodes and recording devices, fed, given a full bottle of Fleet enema liquid, and then subjected to electro-acupuncture to see if it may help treat constipation⁴² (OKC VAMC)
- Vomiting: Mixed-breed dogs were cut open, had electrodes and recording devices implanted on their stomachs and small intestines, and their nerves severed, and they were then repeatedly forced to vomit to allegedly study the muscles involved.⁴³ (Zablocki VAMC)
- Breathing: Mixed-breed dogs had their lungs collapsed, skulls cut open and brains damaged to render them unconscious, and electrodes inserted, and then they were killed purportedly to study the effects of anesthesia on breathing⁴⁴ (Zablocki VAMC)

Completely missing information about FDA & CDC experiments on dogs

Even though NIH and Federal RePORTER are supposed to include FDA and CDC data, a search of intramural FDA and CDC projects for fiscal years 2015 through 2017 using keywords “dog OR dogs OR canine OR canis OR beagle OR hound OR mongrel”

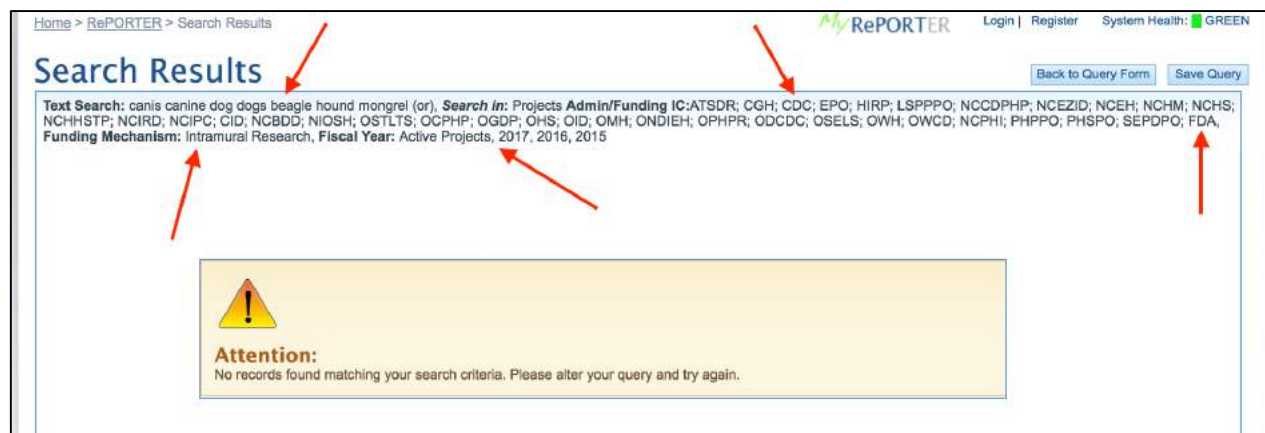
⁴¹ Federal RePORTER Database. (2016). VA projects [Search Results]. Retrieved from <https://federalreporter.nih.gov/projects/search?searchId=d0af2de19ae94033b6af2865340e65a8&searchMode=Advanced>

⁴² Jin, H., Liu, J., Foreman, R. D., Chen, J. D. Z., & Yin, J. (2015). Electrical neuromodulation at acupoint ST36 normalizes impaired colonic motility induced by rectal distension in dogs. *American Journal of Physiology - Gastrointestinal and Liver Physiology*, 309(5), G368–G376. doi:10.1152/ajpgi.00467.2014

⁴³ Lang, I. M. (2016). The role of central and Enteric nervous systems in the control of the retrograde giant contraction. *Journal of Neurogastroenterology and Motility*, 22(2), 321–332. doi:10.5056/jnm15141

⁴⁴ Radocaj, T., Mustapic, S., Prkic, I., Stucke, A. G., Hopp, F. A., Stuth, E. A. E., & Zuperku, E. J. (2015). Activation of 5-HT1A receptors in the preBötzinger region has little impact on the respiratory pattern. *Respiratory Physiology & Neurobiology*, 212-214, 9–19. doi:10.1016/j.resp.2015.03.005

did not identify a single project being conducted by either agency, despite their both reporting to USDA the use of dogs in their laboratories during this period. Further evidence that the RePORTER data is not accurate is that at the 2016 Society of Toxicology conference, FDA employees presented results of a study they conducted in which beagle puppies were subjected to acute pancreatic injury through exposure to a toxic agent, killed and dissected.⁴⁵ Federal RePORTER also did not identify any intramural projects involving dogs at either agency.



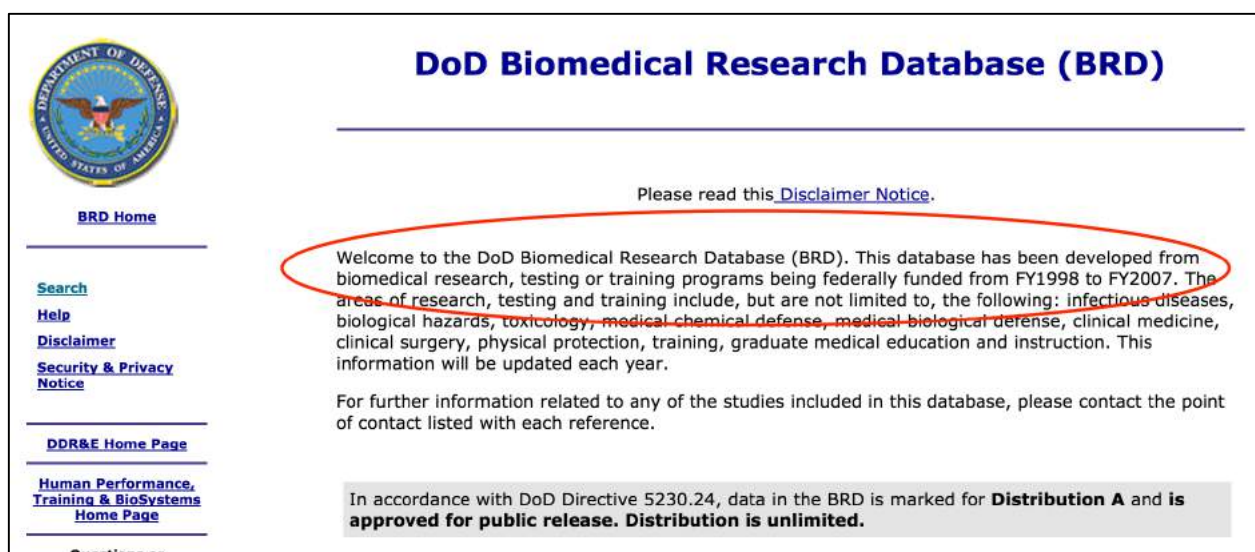
Source: NIH RePORTER

No information available from DOD

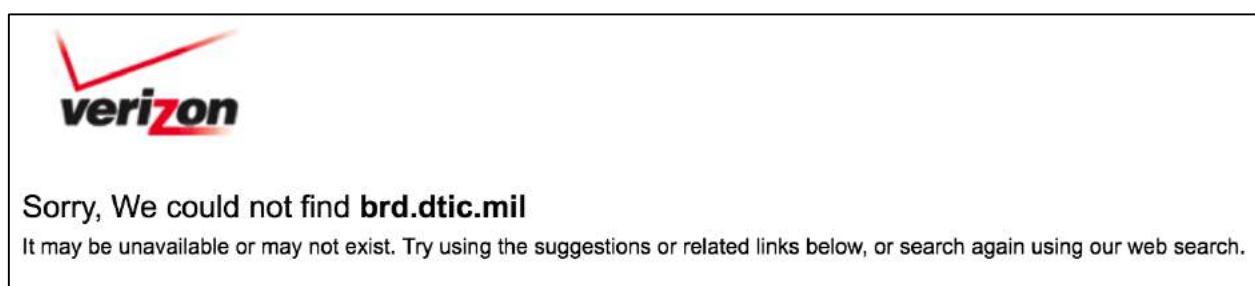
Despite the DOD reporting the use of scores of dogs in painful and distressful experiments on USDA forms, there is no publicly available information about these taxpayer-funded projects. DOD does not maintain its own database of intramural projects and searches on the Federal RePORTER database did not identify any intramural projects involving dogs conducted by the Army (where DOD reports its dog use takes place). A search for relevant terms on the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs database also did not identify any projects involving dogs at Army facilities. A website where intramural animal experimentation projects were previously listed, the DOD Biomedical Research Database, was functional from 1998-2007, but it is no longer updated or online.⁴⁶

⁴⁵ Rouse, R., Rosenzweig, B., Xu, L., Stewart, S., Chockalingam, A., Knapton, A., & Thompson, K. Serum MicroRNA Biomarkers of Acute Pancreatic Injury in the Dog. In: *2016 Annual Meeting Abstract Supplement*, Society of Toxicology, 2016. Abstract no. 3473.

⁴⁶ Department of Defense Biomedical Research Database. (2016). Retrieved November 6, 2016, from <http://www.dtic.mil/biosys/brd/>



Source: DoD Biomedical Research Database landing page



Source: Error message at now-defunct DoD Biomedical Research Database homepage

Unknown Costs to Taxpayers

There is also a striking lack of access to basic or reliable information about what federal dog experimentation costs taxpayers.

Through USASpending.gov, the public can access some information on what agencies pay to purchase dogs, but the costs of the dogs themselves is the least of the expense involved in experiments. Indeed, simply housing and feeding a single dog in NIH laboratories costs taxpayers \$7,555 per year⁴⁷ without factoring in routine veterinary costs, experimental costs, salaries and associated costs.

The aforementioned NIH and Federal RePORTER databases are designed, in part, to be the clearinghouse for information on expenditures for taxpayer-funded research by

⁴⁷ National Institutes of Health. (2016). FY 16 Service and Supply Fund Rates. Retrieved November 6, 2016, from Division of Veterinary Resources, <https://www.ors.od.nih.gov/sr/dvr/documents/dvrrates.pdf>

NIH, CDC, FDA, VA, DOD and other agencies. Unfortunately, the data available is incomplete and unreliable.

Some data about NIH spending on dog experiments

Using the NIH heart attack experiments on dogs as an example, a search on the NIH RePORTER website indicates that this single project has received \$5.95 million since 2011 and \$889,477 in FY2016 alone.⁴⁸

Home > RePORTER > Project Information

MyRePORTER Login | Register System Health: GREEN

Project Information
1ZIAHL006137-05

Project 1 of 1

EXPORT

DESCRIPTION DETAILS RESULTS **HISTORY** SUBPROJECTS SIMILAR PROJECTS NEARBY PROJECTS BETA LINKS NEWS AND MORE

Project Number: 1ZIAHL006137-05 **NIH8 ANNUAL REPORT** Contact PI / Project Leader: ARAI, ANDREW
Title: QUANTIFICATION OF MYOCARDIAL PERFUSION Awardee Organization: NATIONAL HEART, LUNG, AND BLOOD INSTITUTE

Total project funding amount for 6 projects is **\$5,959,259***
* Only NIH, CDC, and FDA funding data.

Page 1 of 1

Project Number	Sub #	Project Title	Contact PI / Project Leader	Organization	FY	Admin IC	Funding IC	FY Total Cost by IC
1ZIAHL006137-06		QUANTIFICATION OF MYOCARDIAL PERFUSION	ARAI, ANDREW	NATIONAL HEART, LUNG, AND BLOOD INSTITUTE	2016	NHLBI	NHLBI	\$889,477
1ZIAHL006137-05		QUANTIFICATION OF MYOCARDIAL PERFUSION	ARAI, ANDREW	NATIONAL HEART, LUNG, AND BLOOD INSTITUTE	2015	NHLBI	NHLBI	\$623,652
1ZIAHL006137-04		QUANTIFICATION OF MYOCARDIAL PERFUSION	ARAI, ANDREW	NATIONAL HEART, LUNG, AND BLOOD INSTITUTE	2014	NHLBI	NHLBI	\$1,033,278
1ZIAHL006137-03		QUANTIFICATION OF MYOCARDIAL PERFUSION	ARAI, ANDREW	NATIONAL HEART, LUNG, AND BLOOD INSTITUTE	2013	NHLBI	NHLBI	\$985,039
1ZIAHL006137-02		QUANTIFICATION OF MYOCARDIAL PERFUSION	ARAI, ANDREW	NATIONAL HEART, LUNG, AND BLOOD INSTITUTE	2012	NHLBI	NHLBI	\$1,162,910
1ZIAHL006137-01		QUANTIFICATION OF MYOCARDIAL PERFUSION	ARAI, ANDREW	NATIONAL HEART, LUNG, AND BLOOD INSTITUTE	2011	NHLBI	NHLBI	\$1,264,903

Source: NIH RePORTER

However, even the information provided for NIH projects is often incomplete. There is no cost data available on NIH's current sepsis and hemorrhage experiments on dogs.⁴⁹

⁴⁸ NIH RePORTER Database. (2016). Quantification of Myocardial Perfusion [Search Results]. Retrieved from https://projectreporter.nih.gov/project_info_history.cfm?aid=9157434&icde=31782411F

⁴⁹ NIH RePORTER Database. (2016). Solomon, Steven [Search Results]. Retrieved from https://projectreporter.nih.gov/reporter_searchresults.cfm?redir=sh&sl=12E8CE034C89C0D57598B8961CAA4A01A2FFCEB861BF&icde=31782462&hsid=12834429&shQID=0

Home > RePORTER > Search Results

MyRePORTER Login | Register System Health: GREEN

Search Results

Back to Query Form Save Query Share Query

Export All Projects GO

PROJECTS PUBLICATIONS PATENTS DATA & VISUALIZE MAP NEWS & MORE

There were 2 results matching your search criteria.
Click on the column header to sort the results

T: Application Type; Act: Activity Code; Project: Admin IC, Serial No.; Year: Support Year/Supplement/Amendment

	T	Act	Project	Year	Sub #	Project Title	Contact PI/ Project Leader	Organization	FY	Admin IC	Funding IC	FY Total Cost by IC	Similar Projects
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	ZIA	CL009013	04		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRANSFUSING OLD BLOOD VS. FRESH BLOOD DURING ACUTE HEMORRHAGE	SOLOMON, STEVEN	CLINICAL CENTER	2015	CLC			
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	ZIA	CL009026	06		IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRANSFUSING OLD VS FRESH BLOOD IN CRITICAL ILLNESS	SOLOMON, STEVEN	CLINICAL CENTER	2015	CLC			

Source: NIH RePORTER

Spending information missing from all VA project listings

None of the four active projects involving dog experiments in VA's laboratories have information on their cost posted at NIH RePORTER or Federal RePORTER.

NIH Research Portfolio Online Reporting Tools (RePORT)

Search

HOME | ABOUT RePORT | FAQs | GLOSSARY | CONTACT US

QUICK LINKS RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS WORKFORCE FUNDING REPORTS LINKS & DATA

Home > RePORTER > Search Results

MyRePORTER Login | Register System Health: GREEN

Search Results

Back to Query Form Save Query Share Query

Export All Projects GO

PROJECTS PUBLICATIONS PATENTS DATA & VISUALIZE MAP NEWS & MORE

There were 4 results matching your search criteria.

Text Search: dog dogs canine canis beagle hound mongrel (or) **Search in:** Projects Admin/Funding IC:VA **Fiscal Year:** Active Projects

Click on the column header to sort the results

T: Application Type; Act: Activity Code; Project: Admin IC, Serial No.; Year: Support Year/Supplement/Amendment

	T	Act	Project	Year	Sub #	Project Title	Contact PI/ Project Leader	Organization	FY	Admin IC	Funding IC	FY Total Cost by IC	Similar Projects
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	I01	RX001544	02		MICROBIOME AND INNATE IMMUNITY WITH PERCUTANEOUS OSSEOINTEGRATED PROSTHESES	BECK, JAMES PETER	VA SALT LAKE CITY HEALTHCARE SYSTEM	2016	VA			
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	I01	BX003284	01		MECHANISMS OF VENTILATORY ADAPTATIONS TO CHRONIC HYPERCAPNIA	FORSTER, HUBERT V	CLEMENT J. ZABLOCKI VA MEDICAL CENTER	2016	VA			
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	IK6	BX003604	01		BLR&D RESEARCH CAREER SCIENTIST APPLICATION	KERN, TIMOTHY S	LOUIS STOKES CLEVELAND VA MEDICAL CENTER	2017	VA			
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	I21	RX002041	01		A PRE-CLINICAL MODEL FOR THE REHABILITATION OF CPAP- INTOLERANT OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA	STROHL, KINGMAN PERKINS	LOUIS STOKES CLEVELAND VA MEDICAL CENTER	2016	VA			

Source: NIH RePORTER

No spending information available for CDC, FDA or DOD

Because CDC and FDA projects are missing from NIH RePORTER, the public has no access to information on what they spend on dog experiments. DOD also does not publish this information anywhere for intramural projects.

Potential Double-Dipping and Duplication

Of the 12 projects that appear to involve experimentation on dogs inside NIH's laboratories, there appears to be some significant overlap and duplication. For instance, one NIH experimenter has three current, separately funded projects involving sepsis and hemorrhage experiments on dogs^{50,51,52} and another NIH experimenter has two concurrent projects involving anthrax experiments on dogs.^{53,54}

Dog Experiments Are a Waste of Scarce Resources

In addition to the serious concerns about the lack of transparency and accountability regarding the scale, scope and cost of federal laboratories' experiments on dogs, these experiments on animals are demonstrably wasteful.

In the NIH-Wide Strategic Plan for FY2016-20, the agency states, "Petri dish and animal models often fail to provide good ways to mimic disease or predict how drugs will work in humans, resulting in much wasted time and money while patients wait for therapies."⁵⁵

More specifically, NIH has reported that 95 percent of drugs and treatments that pass animal tests fail in human clinical trials because they do not work or are dangerous in people and that each of these failures represents 14 years of work and \$2 billion wasted.⁵⁶

⁵⁰ NIH Intramural Database. (2016). The Effect of glucocorticoids in a Sedated and Ventilated Model of Canine Sepsis [Research Report]. Retrieved from <http://intramural.nih.gov/search/searchview.taf?ipid=93243&ts=1478167282>

⁵¹ NIH Intramural Database. (2016). Is there a difference between transfusing old vs fresh blood in critical illness [Research Report]. Retrieved from <http://intramural.nih.gov/search/searchview.taf?ipid=93287&ts=1478167282>

⁵² NIH Intramural Database. (2016). Difference between transfusing old blood vs. fresh blood during acute hemorrhage [Research Report]. Retrieved from <http://intramural.nih.gov/search/searchview.taf?ipid=93196&ts=1478171318>

⁵³ NIH Intramural Database. (2016). Testing the effects of Anthrax Immune Globulin (AIG) in a Canine Model of B. anthracis Toxin Associated Shock [Research Report]. Retrieved from <http://intramural.nih.gov/search/searchview.taf?ipid=93317&ts=1478167282>

⁵⁴ NIH Intramural Database. (2016). Hemodynamic and anti-Toxin Treatments in Anthrax Lethal Toxin Challenged Canines [Research Report]. Retrieved from <http://intramural.nih.gov/search/searchview.taf?ipid=93285&ts=1478167282>

⁵⁵ National Institutes of Health. (2016). NIH-Wide Strategic Plan Fiscal Years 2016-2020. Retrieved November 6, 2016, from National Institutes of Health, <https://www.nih.gov/sites/default/files/about-nih/strategic-plan-fy2016-2020-508.pdf>

⁵⁶ National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences. (2015, October 08). NOT-TR-16-002: Request for information (RFI): Soliciting input for the national center for advancing Translational sciences (NCATS) strategic planning process. Retrieved November 6, 2016, from National Institutes of Health, <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-TR-16-002.html>

A distinguished Yale University School of Public Health professor recently told an audience at NIH that 87.5 percent of biomedical research—especially animal experiments—are wasteful and unproductive.⁵⁷ Similarly, a 2014 review paper in the influential *BMJ* that he co-authored concluded, “If research conducted on animals continues to be unable to reasonably predict what can be expected in humans, the public’s continuing endorsement and funding of preclinical animal research seems misplaced.”⁵⁸

Private sector studies show that disease and drug experiments on dogs do not apply to humans⁵⁹ and that high-tech research tools like organs-on-chips are cheaper, faster and more accurate.^{60,61,62}

Of the five agencies currently conducting experiments on dogs, only one—DOD—*requires* the use of cost-effective alternatives to animal experiments when available (though enforcement of this policy is questionable).⁶³ Other agencies only mandate that these tools be “considered.”

In recent years, several long-running, multi-million dollar NIH primate experimentation projects have been discontinued after reviews—prompted by public pressure—deemed them imprudent uses of taxpayers’ money.^{64,65} An independent review of dog experiments in federal laboratories would likely identify waste as well.

Majority of Americans Oppose Taxpayer-Funded Dog Experiments

Dogs hold a special place in Americans’ lives. Today, 44% of U.S. households (54.4 million) have dogs⁶⁶ and polls show that 95% of people with pets consider them members of their family.⁶⁷

⁵⁷ Bock, E. (2016, July 1). Much biomedical research is wasted, argues Bracken - the NIH record - July 1, 2016. Retrieved November 6, 2016, from NIH Record, https://nihrecord.nih.gov/newsletters/2016/07_01_2016/story3.htm

⁵⁸ Pound, P., & Bracken, M. B. (2014). Is animal research sufficiently evidence based to be a cornerstone of biomedical research? *BMJ*, 348(may30 1), g3387–g3387. doi:10.1136/bmj.g3387

⁵⁹ Roth, A., & Singer, T. (2014). The application of 3D cell models to support drug safety assessment: opportunities & challenges. *Advanced drug delivery reviews*, 69, 179-189.

⁶⁰ Zhu, A. Z., Ho, M. C. D., Gemski, C. K., Chuang, B. C., Liao, M., & Xia, C. Q. (2016). Utilizing In Vitro Dissolution-Permeation Chamber for the Quantitative Prediction of pH-Dependent Drug-Drug Interactions with Acid-Reducing Agents: a Comparison with Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic Modeling. *The AAPS Journal*, 1-12.

⁶¹ Barker, R., Abrahamsson, B., & Kruusmägi, M. (2014). Application and validation of an advanced gastrointestinal in vitro model for the evaluation of drug product performance in pharmaceutical development. *Journal of pharmaceutical sciences*, 103(11), 3704-3712.

⁶² Sjögren, E., Westergren, J., Grant, I., Hanisch, G., Lindfors, L., Lennernäs, H., ... & Tannergren, C. (2013). In silico predictions of gastrointestinal drug absorption in pharmaceutical product development: application of the mechanistic absorption model GI-Sim. *European Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences*, 49(4), 679-698.

⁶³ Department of Defense. (2010, September 13). Use of Animals in DoD Programs. Retrieved November 6, 2016, from Department of Defense, <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/321601p.pdf>

⁶⁴ St Fleur, N. (2015, November 19). N.I.H. to End Backing for Invasive Research on Chimps. Retrieved November 08, 2016, from <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/11/20/science/nih-to-end-backing-for-invasive-research-on-chimps.html>

⁶⁵ Grimm, D. (2015, December 14). Decision to end monkey experiments based on finances, not animal rights, NIH says. Retrieved November 6, 2016, from Science, <http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2015/12/decision-end-monkey-experiments-based-finances-not-animal-rights-nih-says>

⁶⁶ American Pet Products Association. (2016). Pet Industry Market Size & Ownership Statistics [Data Set]. Retrieved from http://www.americanpetproducts.org/press_industrytrends.asp

Recent surveys show that a supermajority of Americans—75 percent—want laboratory experiments on dogs and cats to be phased out.⁶⁸ Similarly, a new poll found that 59% of Americans want to reduce taxpayer funding for experiments on dogs and cats, and 66% believe the public should have access to spending data about all taxpayer-funded animal experiments.⁶⁹ Overall, a majority of Americans oppose all medical testing on dogs and other animals.⁷⁰

Findings and Recommendations

WCW's analysis found that controversial experiments on dogs in federal laboratories continue with little accountability to taxpayers and Congress. With few exceptions, the agencies receiving tax money to conduct these studies fail to disclose the purpose or outcome of these experiments, what they entail, how much is being spent, or what happens to the puppies and adult dogs unfortunate enough to be the subjects. These experiments also persist despite opposition from a majority of American taxpayers, the availability of more humane and cost-effective research tools, and growing acknowledgement by federal authorities that animal experiments are slow, expensive and rarely translate to improvements in human health.

WCW offers the following recommendations to improve transparency about federal dog experimentation and help reduce potential waste and abuse associated with this practice:

1. **Provide Transparency:** Ensure that all federal agencies conducting experiments on dogs and other animals accurately and regularly report to taxpayers the details of all past and current projects, their purpose, results and their cost to taxpayers
2. **Audit Spending:** Independently audit the scale, scope and cost of dog experimentation programs in federal laboratories
3. **Close Loopholes:** Close loopholes that allow federal spending on dog experiments that are unnecessary or duplicative or that can be replaced with less expensive non-animal research methods

⁶⁷ Shannon-Missal, L. (2015, July 16). More than ever, pets are members of the family. Retrieved November 6, 2016, from The Harris Poll, <http://www.theharrispoll.com/health-and-life/Pets-are-Members-of-the-Family.html>

⁶⁸ Lincoln Park Strategies. (2016, June). National Survey of Adults.

⁶⁹ Lincoln Park Strategies. (2016, October). National Polling Results-Attitudes on Animal Testing.

⁷⁰ Funk, C. & Rainie, L. (2015, July 1). Opinion About the Use of Animals in Research. Retrieved November 6, 2016 from Pew Research Center, <http://www.pewinternet.org/2015/07/01/chapter-7-opinion-about-the-use-of-animals-in-research/>



“ Most of the dogs used in research are beagles due to their convenient size and docile nature.”

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Service

SOURCE: HHS Office of Research Integrity website

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

“ Five adult female hound dogs (3–4 yr, 22–25 kg) were used in this experiment....The procedure for each session was as follows: after an overnight fast, one bottle of enema liquid was given to each dog....The experiment was performed in the laboratory with the animal standing on a table.”

- Department of Veterans Affairs dog constipation experiment

SOURCE: American Journal of Physiology



“ Neither Congress nor the public have an adequate basis for understanding and assessing the reasons DOD uses animals in its research.”

- Government Accountability Office

SOURCE: GAO Report #99-156

Contract Description:

BEAGLE CANINE: (Male), 10-13 KGS, 2 years old

Contract Value: \$13,795



- Details for NIH beagle purchase

SOURCE: USASpending.gov



WHITE COAT
WASTE

The White Coat Waste Project is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization representing more than 350,000 liberty lovers and animal lovers working to end wasteful government spending on animal experiments. National Review calls it a "refreshing consensus-building argument."

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