

HIDDEN HORROR

How NIH spends \$100 million annually on taxpayer-funded animal tests with aborted human fetal tissue

An analysis by



KEY FINDINGS

TAXPAYERS STILL FUNDING GRUESOME HUMAN FETAL TISSUE RESEARCH

- A new WCW/PLSF analysis has found that despite the Trump Administration's new restrictions on research using aborted human fetal tissue (HFT), many National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded HFT projects continue due to administrative loopholes.

MOST HFT INVOLVES DISTURBING AND WASTEFUL ANIMAL TESTING

- WCW/PLSF's review found that 89% (177 of 200 FY18 projects) of NIH-funded HFT research involves animal tests, including the use of monkeys, rabbits, cats, sheep, pigs, mice, rats, and fish.
- Experimenters obtain human fetuses (including viable fetuses up to 24 gestational weeks old) from elective abortions and transplant their eyes, intestines, bones and other body parts into lab animals.
- Animal testing is notoriously wasteful, with NIH estimating a 95% failure rate.

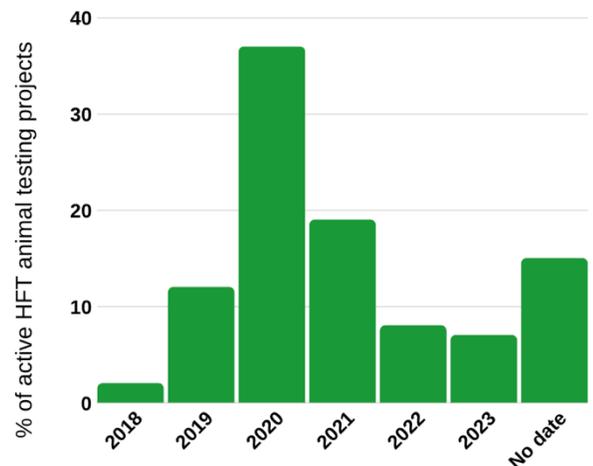
\$100-MILLION-PLUS WASTED EACH YEAR

- In FY18, NIH spent \$108M on HFT projects *involving animal tests*.
- Overall, NIH funding for HFT research has risen from \$80M in FY15 to \$120M in FY19 (+50%), and is estimated to consume \$104M in FY20.

MANY HFT PROJECTS WILL GO UNCHECKED UNTIL 2023

- New HHS rules ban intramural HFT research and require an ethics board review of all new extramural HFT research proposals, but current grants will not be reviewed until they are up for renewal, which could be as late as 2023.
- Of 177 FY18 HFT animal testing projects: 12% are up for renewal in 2019; 37% in 2020; 19% in 2021; 8% in 2022; and 7% in 2023 (15% do not list an end date).

BUDGET END DATES FOR ACTIVE NIH-FUNDED HFT ANIMAL TESTING GRANTS

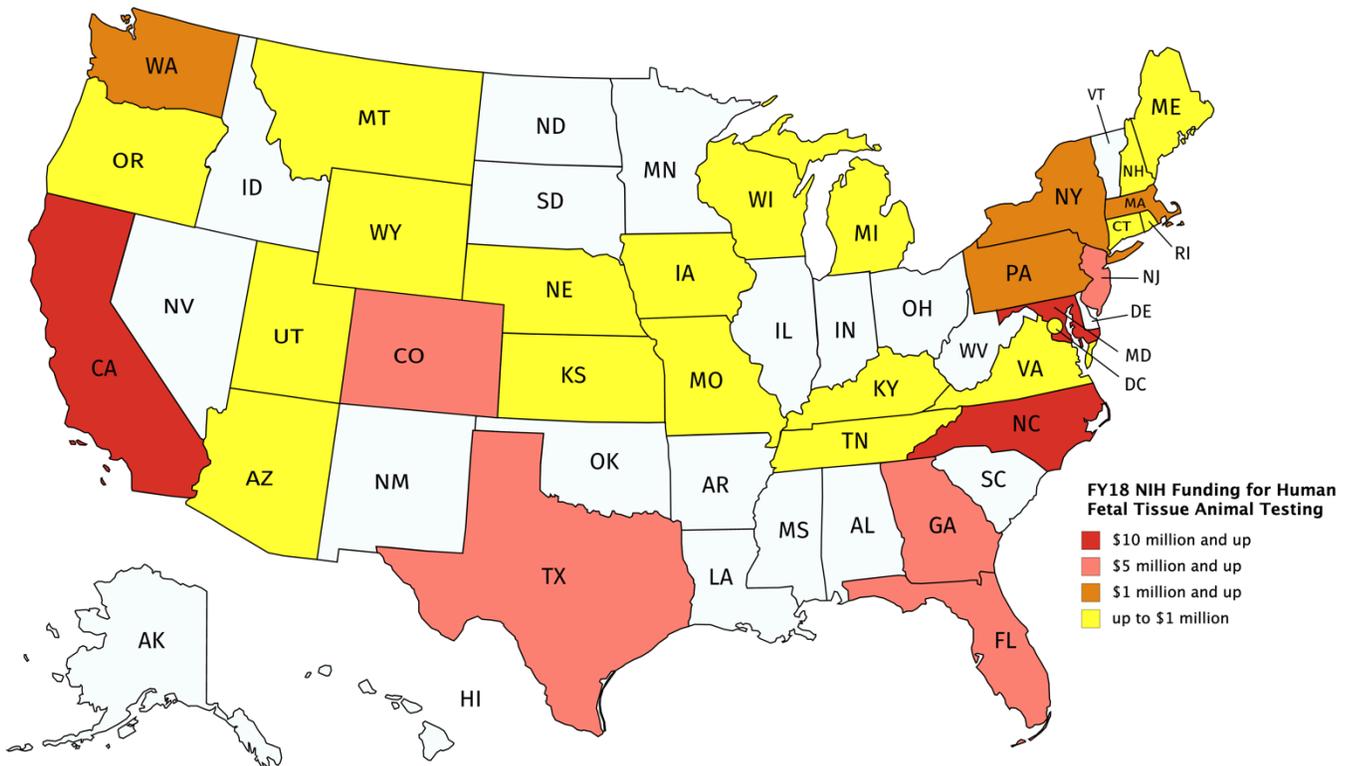


SOURCE: NIH REPORTER

(Over)

NATIONWIDE AND INTERNATIONAL HFT EPIDEMIC

- In FY18, NIH funded over 177 HFT animal testing projects in 31 different states.
- NIH is also sending tax dollars to Spain for HFT animal testing.



MOST AMERICANS OPPOSE HFT ANIMAL TESTS

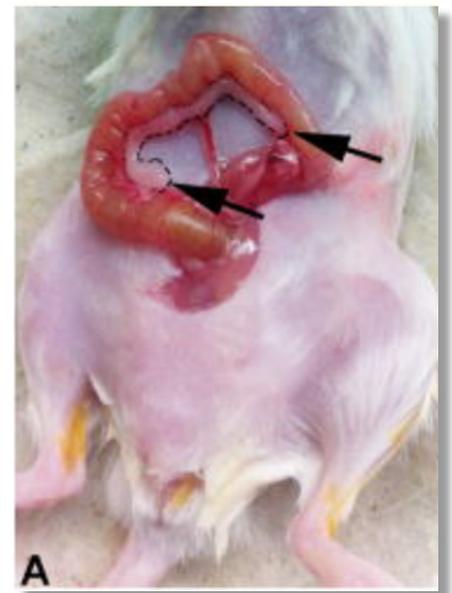
- A Fox News poll found that a plurality of Americans oppose HFT research.
- A 2018 Pew Research Center study shows that a majority of Americans oppose animal testing.

SUPERIOR ALTERNATIVES TO HFT ARE AVAILABLE

- Superior alternatives to HFT experiments on animals include mini-organoids, organs-on-chips, umbilical stem cells, and other techniques that are already available and more accurate and cost-effective.
- The Trump Administration has committed to investing an additional \$20M in alternatives to HFT.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Suspend funding for all active NIH-funded HFT projects until they undergo full reviews by an HHS ethics advisory board.
2. Pass the Protecting Life and Integrity in Research Act (HR 573) to prohibit NIH from spending tax dollars on research using electively aborted HFT.



Human fetal intestine (pink) implanted into a live mouse for NIH-funded experimentation.