

United States Senate

June 2, 2022

The Honorable Dr. Anthony Fauci
Director National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
National Institute of Health
5601 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20892

Dear Dr. Fauci,

I am writing with concerns and questions about yet another report that your agency is spending millions of taxpayer dollars for wasteful drug testing on dogs.

According to media reports and documents released through the Freedom of Information Act, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) has awarded an exorbitant \$1.8 million contract (contract number: 75N93021C00044; hereinafter referred to as “the contract”) for a series of tests on dogs and other animals to evaluate an experimental drug developed by a private biotechnology company to treat hay fever.^{1,2}

I understand that at least five different NIAID-funded tests on dogs, including puppies as young as six-months-old, are planned for this drug and will involve invasive, painful, and potentially deadly procedures.

This taxpayer-funded dog testing commissioned by NIAID appears to be unnecessary. According to the FOIA documents, NIAID’s contractor proposed an alternative, non-dog animal model to replace dogs for at least some testing. Additionally, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has stated that, “The FDA does not mandate that human drugs be studied in dogs.”³

Previous reports have detailed NIAID-funded experiments in which dogs had their vocal cords cut out to prevent them from barking during drug tests,⁴ were infested with ticks,⁵ and were sedated and placed in cages with infectious sandflies in a lab in Tunisia.⁶

In light of these concerns, I request the following information:

1. Please list all dog tests proposed under the contract and include the following details:
 - a. Test name and description
 - b. Number of dogs scheduled to be used
 - c. USDA pain category
 - d. Cost to taxpayers

¹ <https://freebeacon.com/biden-administration/nih-to-spend-2-million-in-taxpayer-funds-experimenting-on-puppies/>

² https://www.usaspending.gov/award/CONT_AWD_75N93021C00044_7529_-NONE_-NONE-

³ <https://wjla.com/features/i-team/animals-drug-testing-fda-labs-animals>

⁴ <https://dailycaller.com/2021/10/05/antony-fauci-niaid-white-coat-waste-anima-experiment-abuse/>

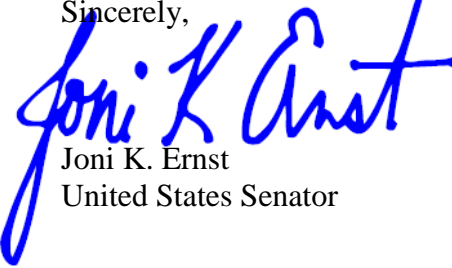
⁵ <https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2021/10/29/faucis-nih-of-ticks-sucking-on-puppies-alive/> ,

⁶ <https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2022/04/exclusive-media-ran-disinformation-campaign-protect-fauci-criticism-dog-torture/>

2. Will any funding be provided from private sources and what percentage of the funds for these experiences will be provided by NIAID?
3. Will any funding for these tests be provided to labs in China?
4. What would the cost be to taxpayers if a non-animal testing model was used?
5. The FDA has stated dog testing is not mandated for human drugs. Did NIAID consult with the FDA to specifically discuss whether dog testing was required? Did NIAID propose the use of any alternatives to dog or other animal testing?

I look forward to your response by June 16, 2022.

Sincerely,



Joni K. Ernst
United States Senator