

The Scripps Research Institute (TSRI)  
Statement on Biomedical Research with Animals

Research with animals has played a critical role in the development of nearly all modern drugs, diagnostic procedures and surgical techniques. Without animal research, many of the biomedical advances achieved by scientists at TSRI and other research organizations would not be possible.

TSRI is committed to ensuring that all our research involving animals is humane, responsible, and in full compliance with applicable laws and regulations. In accordance with U.S. Public Health Service (PHS) requirements and the federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA), we require our researchers to submit proposals for working with animals to an oversight committee known as the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). Separate committees for each of TSRI's campuses are constituted in accordance with PHS Policy, and these committees carefully review every proposal to ensure that the use of experimental animals is justified, responsible and humane. The committee uses the *Guide for Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (National Academy Press), PHS policy and the AWA as standards.

TSRI requires individuals involved in animal research to complete training on animal welfare principles and proper animal care, which includes hands-on training where necessary with each animal species that may be used in the proposed research.

Further, TSRI requires researchers to consider alternatives to the use of animals. Research proposals that involve animals must address the availability and feasibility of other approaches such as the use of cells, tissues and computer models.

Along with our USDA Registration and PHS Assurances, TSRI's Animal Programs on each campus are accredited by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC), a nonprofit organization that promotes humane treatment of animals in science. In addition to AAALAC site visits and evaluations for accreditation purposes, TSRI receives at least one unannounced inspection visit from federal authorities annually.