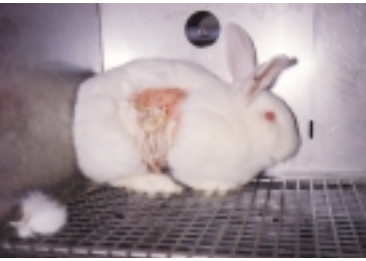


Misleading ... costly ... and cruel



Just a few years ago, every cosmetics company poisoned animals with lipstick, shampoo, hair spray, or other “beauty” products. Car manufacturers pummeled monkeys’ heads with hydraulic “arms” to simulate crashes. Laboratory technicians killed a rabbit every time they tested a woman for pregnancy.

These tests were thought to be “state of the art.” Today, thanks to consumer activists and imaginative scientists, there are better, kinder methods.

But tens of millions of mice,

rats, rabbits, guinea pigs, ferrets, cats, dogs, primates, sheep, cows, pigs, and other animals are still experimented on and killed in laboratories every year in the U.S. Instead of developing more advanced scientific techniques, vivisectionists infect animals with diseases that they would never contract under normal circumstances. They force-feed and inject them with toxic chemicals. They sever animals’ spines, break their bones, and cement electrodes into their skulls. The military sickens and wounds animals with radiation, chemical agents, and guns even though the effects of these weapons on humans are already well documented. Psychologists subject animals to maternal deprivation, drug and alcohol addiction, and other torments.

The animals’ only legal protection, the federal Animal Welfare Act, covers only housekeeping standards and does not regulate or prohibit any experiment, no matter how frivolous or painful, and more than 90 percent of animals used in these tests aren’t even covered by the act. Many crude experiments are repeated again and again because there is no central information system that lists data from previous experiments.

In addition to being cruel, animal studies often lead down blind alleys and impede progress. Taking healthy beings of a different species, artificially inducing a condition, keeping them in unnatural and stressful conditions, then trying to apply the “results” to humans rarely works. Physiological interactions vary enormously from species to species. The polio vaccine, often cited as an example of why animal studies are necessary, was actually delayed for decades because experiments on monkeys led to a misunderstanding of the mechanism of polio infection.

The Animal Welfare Act does not regulate or prohibit any experiment, no matter how frivolous or painful.



“If you have information on human genes, what’s the point of going back to animals?”

**Pharmagene cofounder
Gordon Baxter**



Imagine having
your body left
to science ...
while you're
still in it.

An estimated
17 to 70
million
animals are
killed in U.S.
laboratories
every year.

Human gene studies, human cell models and cultures, state-of-the-art software, "super" computers, artificial skin, and test-tube studies are now replacing animals in modern laboratories. The Pharmagene laboratory, based in Royston, England, for example, uses human tissues and sophisticated computer technologies—and no animals—for drug research and development. In the U.S., Physiome Sciences develops 3-dimensional computer-based models of human organs, which exhibit the biophysical properties of both normal and diseased cells, for use in drug testing and medical research.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Buy from manufacturers that have permanently banned all animal tests (lists available from PETA), and educate friends and family about cruelty-free shopping.
- Reduce your own risk of disease by avoiding the consumption of meat, eggs, and dairy products.
- If you work in a laboratory where animals are abused, call or write PETA's Research, Investigations & Rescue Department.

