



ACCESS DENIED

A report on animal experiments in two
British laboratories:

Charing Cross & Westminster Medical
School, London, W6

and

The Institute of Neurology, London, WC1

by the National Anti-Vivisection Society

March 1996

Investigator: Cris Iles

Report team: Bill Bingham
Jan Creamer
Tim Phillips

© 1996 NAVS
£12
ISBN 0 905225 10 4

Cover photos: Jan Creamer

FOREWORD

The National Anti-Vivisection Society campaigns to explode the myths about animal experimentation, and to show that this system of research is not the 'necessary evil' many assume that it is. There is a choice; a choice for safety testing of products and a choice for medical progress, without the use of animals. It is our firmly held belief that animal experiments are unreliable, unethical, and unnecessary. We are against animal experiments, but we are for good science, and better medical research.

Within the context of our educational campaigns about the misleading information gained from animal tests, we also press for changes to the administration of the law governing animal experiments.

The vivisection industry generates a great deal of public concern, whether people are against all animal experiments or not. There can be no other industry which arouses so much concern, and yet is manifestly unaccountable.

There has to be accountability; the experiments are secret, the Home Office Inspectorate is secret, the procedures for applying for licences are secret and the justification for experiments is also closely guarded. At no point do the public have free access to the level of information we need on this issue in order to have an informed debate, and make an informed decision. There is currently no opportunity to debate the justification for carrying out an animal experiment before the licence is awarded by the Home Office.

Although we campaign against all animal experiments, there is a much wider issue here. The debate cannot be resolved without open and free discussion. Until there is freedom of information about the reasons for carrying out animal experiments, controversy will continue.

At the very least, many people would agree with us that there must be something seriously wrong with the administration of the law in this area when the only way we can find out what is really happening to animals in laboratories is to put a person undercover for two years.

The report should be read by members of the public who wish to find out how their tax money or charity money is being spent. It is directed at people who want to know more about the rationale involved in this debate, and we have translated the science into everyday language to enable the reader to grasp the main issues. It should be read by Members of Parliament who are concerned about open government, and about the use of animals in laboratories. And last but not least, it should be read by the Home Office Inspectorate and the Animal Procedures Committee. It is hoped that these two bodies will take action on the specific questions we have raised about the two laboratories, and also take a long hard look at the administration of the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986.

CONTENTS

1. LEGAL CRITIQUE

1.1	Introduction	1
1.2	The 1986 Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act	3
	The Designated Establishment Certificate Holder	
	The Named Day to Day Carer	
	The Named Veterinary Surgeon	
	The Project Licence	
	The Personal Licence	
	The Animal Technician	
	Summary of Responsible Persons	
	The Animal Procedures Committee	
	The Home Office Inspectorate	
1.3	Legislative Compliance	7
1.3.1	CXWMS: animals vs cell culture	
1.3.2	IN: project licence - migraine research	
1.3.3	IN: project licence - primate brain mapping	
1.3.4	IN: primate supply	
1.3.5	A(SP)A Schedule 1 & COP Breaches	
1.3.6	IN: post operative cats	
1.4	Code of Practice for the Housing & Care of Animals Used in Scientific Procedures	22
	Points of information and breaches of COP, listed by COP number	

2. ANIMAL CARE, HOUSING, AND SUPPLY

2.1	Charing Cross & Westminster Medical School	54
2.1.1	Cats	
2.1.2	Dogs	
2.1.3	Guinea-pigs	
2.1.4	Pigs	
2.1.5	Rabbits	
2.1.6	Rodents	

	Mice	
	Rats	
	Nude mice	
2.1.7	Sheep	
2.1.8	Overbreeding	
2.1.9	Other [non gassing] Killing Methods	
2.2	Institute of Neurology	54
2.2.1	Cats	
2.2.2	Guinea-pigs	
2.2.3	Macaque monkeys	
3.	SCIENTIFIC CRITIQUE	77
3.1	Animal Research at CXWMS	77
3.1.1	Academic Unit of Cardiovascular Medicine, heart experiments	
3.1.1(a)	Studies of clot-busting drugs, dogs	
3.1.1(b)	Heart failure research, dogs	
3.1.2	Depts Anatomy, Biochemistry, Histopathology, muscular dystrophy experiments on rats	
3.1.3	Dept. Biochemistry, kyphoscoliosis in rats	
3.1.4	Dept. Medical Oncology, cancer experiments	
3.1.4(a)	Studies of Breast Cancer in Rats	
3.1.4(b)	Studies of Human Cancers in Nude Mice	
3.2	Animal Research at the Institute of Neurology	112
3.2.1	Dept. of Neurochemistry, dexfenfluramine in rats	
3.2.2	Depts of Neurological Surgery and Neurochemistry, Stroke experiments on gerbils and baboons	
3.2.3	Depts Clinical Neurology & Neurological Surgery, migraine experiments on cats and rats	
3.2.4	Sobell Dept Neurophysiology, study on brains of macaque monkeys	
3.2.5	Astra Neuroscience Research Unit experiments with ecstasy in rats	