

Huntingdon Life Sciences

EXPOSED



Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) is a major European contract testing laboratory, which conducts toxicological (safety) tests for a range of clients including manufacturers of drugs, chemicals and other products.

The **Save the Primates** report describes one of the most ambitious NAVS investigations ever, during which our investigators exposed every disturbing aspect of the capture, trade and use of primates for this sordid industry. The investigation ended at HLS, where primates and other animals including guinea pigs, mice, rats and rabbits suffer and die in tests.



Read on to find out about the world you were not meant to see – all done in your name. These experiments can be replaced. Help us to fight for lasting change.

THE MONKEY DEALERS, Vietnam: A small rusting cage with a monkey living inside - yet this dealer is licensed by the UK government and supplies thousands of monkeys to UK laboratories.



Nafovanny in Vietnam is a huge exporter of monkeys. In 2008 ADI found monkeys in small wire mesh pens, with concrete floors and little enrichment. At the back of the facility, monkeys were kept alone, in small rusty cages less than a metre tall; they could barely stand up. It is shameful that this facility is approved by the UK Home Office.

THE ANIMAL TESTING LABORATORY, UK: Monkeys generally live behind bars in small windowless rooms or tiny metal cages with an average living space in the region of 1 cubic metre per animal.



In the year to June 2008, at least 476 monkeys were supplied by Nafovanny to Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) in the UK. HLS is one of

Europe's largest commercial animal testing facilities, contracted by pharmaceutical, chemical and other companies to perform toxicology and other tests on their products.

On arrival at HLS most monkeys were frightened, hiding at the back of their boxes; injuries from the journey included abrasions to heads and faces. Initially monkeys are placed in a stock colony. There is no natural light. Their HLS home provides an average of one cubic metre per animal! This company is not poor; it is providing a service to multi-billion pound companies, but it would be difficult to describe the HLS primate cages as anything but the bare minimum – no real acknowledgement of the needs of such intelligent, sensitive animals.

OTHER ANIMALS SUFFERING AT HLS:
Rabbits are subjected to tests, and surgery.



One monkey was found with blood on its face and the ends of its toes missing. The wound shape suggested that the animal may have trapped its foot in the cage, sliced its toes off trying to free itself and then put its foot in its mouth. Missing digits were not considered to be an uncommon occurrence. Other monkeys suffered diarrhoea, nose bleeds, or even ate and then vomited their own excrement.

We saw tests using between 4 and 72 monkeys; all involved physical restraint of the monkeys, sometimes being strapped into chairs, causing great distress. For some the stress was too much – they suffered rectal prolapse, a known indicator of stress in primates.

During an oral dosing study, some monkeys vomited and salivated on many occasions. One almost chewed off its finger, continuing to chew its hand after the vet had dressed it. Others showed symptoms such as tugging at chest skin, pushing their fists into their mouths, trying to bite through the metal food hopper and pushing sawdust into their cheek pouches. What happened next? These clearly distressed animals were dosed as normal and returned to their cages

On an inhalation study, three monkeys died or were killed due to partially collapsed and blocked lungs. At the post mortem their lungs were found to be blackened; they would have suffered greatly.

Monkeys are intelligent and can anticipate what is going to happen. In the wild, they innovate, learn things from each other including skills such as cleaning food or fishing. At HLS monkeys could see their friends being restrained and experimented upon. Some monkeys had a drug pumped into their stomach daily, for a year. Others endured over eighty bleeds.

On the regular days when used monkeys were killed to study their tissues, the other monkeys would fall silent. They knew.

Rats are confined in metabolism cages with grid floors for up to a week at a time in order to collect data during tests.



YES! I want to help save lab animals.

A monthly donation makes a huge difference to our work – please help by completing this form in BLOCK CAPITALS, using ball point pen, and return to:

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