



Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe

BioMed Alliance welcomes European Commission reply to "Stop Vivisection" European Citizens' Initiative (ECI)

Brussels, 5 June 2015

The Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe (BioMed Alliance) welcomes the European Commission's decision not to repeal Directive 2010/63/EU on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes, in response to the ECI "Stop Vivisection". Animal studies continue to provide invaluable insights into basic biological processes and are instrumental in unravelling disease mechanisms and pathways. To ensure continued advancement in the prevention of diseases and the development of safe and efficacious treatments, a complete replacement of animal studies would at this time be premature.

The BioMed Alliance is convinced that Directive 2010/63/EU offers a high level of protection of animals used in research through the 3Rs principles (replacement, reduction and refinement). Animals are used in research where the potential medical, veterinary and scientific benefits are compelling and no viable alternative method is available. Research involving animals have led to significant medical breakthroughs, for all medical specialties and therapeutic areas.

The BioMed Alliance favours an approach that aims to reduce animal use by a continuous review and optimisation of study designs, by including more sophisticated animal models or non-mammalian models, and by coupling research where possible to human cell and tissue studies. Replacing animal use would require new, intensified collaborative and interdisciplinary efforts as well as specific funding directed to develop alternative models and to ensure their validity and utility.

The BioMed Alliance is committed to support the development and validation of alternative approaches and to engage with the European Commission on this important matter, whilst not compromising the health of our citizens or that of Europe's scientific excellence.

Karin Sipido,

President of the Alliance of Biomedical Research in Europe

Executive Committee

President: Prof. K. Sipido
Past- President: Prof. U. Smith
President-Elect: Prof. C. O'Morain
Treasurer: Prof. L. Nicod

Board Members:
Françoise Meunier
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Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe

About The Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe

The Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe (BioMed Alliance) is a consortium of 21 member organizations, representing over 400 000 researchers and health professionals.

The Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe (BioMed Alliance) was founded by four major European academic medical societies namely the European Cancer Association (ECCO), the European Respiratory Society (ERS), the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) and the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD).

The BioMed Alliance is committed through its actions to promote excellence in European biomedical research and innovation with the goal of improving the health and well-being of all European citizens.

BioMed Alliance's members:

European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD), European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL), European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM), European Atherosclerosis Society (EAS), European CanCer Organisation (ECCO), European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP), Federation of European Biochemical Societies (FEBS), European Federation of Immunological Societies (EFIS), European Academy of Neurology (EAN), European Hematology Association (EHA), European League Against Rheumatism, (EULAR), European Respiratory Society (ERS), European Society for Paediatric Research (ESPR), European Society of Anaesthesiology (ESA), European Society of Cardiology (ESC), European Society of Hypertension (ESH), European Society of Radiology (ESR), European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE), United European Gastroenterology (UEG), European Academy for Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI), European Society of Pathology (ESP)

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