



Humane Care and Use of Animals in Medical Research Policy

Pain Concern does not conduct research involving laboratory animals and we do not fund such research. However, Pain Concern recognises that medical advances currently require the use of animals as well as test tube procedures, studies in human volunteers and studies in patient populations. Pain Concern is not opposed to the use of animals in research provided:

- There is no alternative means to conduct the research;
- The use of animals is kept to the minimum needed;
- The research is humanely carried out using the most refined methods;
- The experiments have been subject to independent ethical review;
- The animals are under the care of a veterinary surgeon who is independent of the researchers.

Such conditions are embodied in UK legislation and the Council of Europe's Convention for the Protection of Animals in Experimental Procedures.

We support the principles of the 3Rs of medical research:

Replacement of animals whenever possible with non-animal methods

Reduction of the use of animals as far as possible

Refinement of experiments by using the mildest techniques and the best animal care.

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