

## Advancing non-animal toxicology testing approaches that protect human health and the environment

- Funds the development and validation of non-animal test methods
- Organises free workshops, webinars, and hands-on training opportunities
- Collaborates with government agencies, industry, academics, and developers of non-animal test methods
- Performs retrospective data analyses to show when animal data are not being used in regulatory decision-making
- Participates in standard-making organisations

### Funding the Development and Validation of Non-Animal Test Methods

The Science Consortium and its members have contributed [millions](#) of euros towards improving and implementing non-animal testing approaches. Funded projects include the advancement of the OECD QSAR Toolbox and other non-animal approaches to assessing skin sensitisation, skin and eye irritation, inhalation toxicity, endocrine activity, and shellfish toxins.

### Advancing International Harmonisation

The Science Consortium promotes [international harmonisation](#) through the following:

- Participation in the OECD as a member of the International Council on Animal Protection in OECD Programmes (ICAPO)
- Participation in the review of international pharmaceutical test guidelines as a member of the International Council on Animal Protection in Pharmaceutical Programmes (ICAPPP)
- Participate in the International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
- Stakeholder status in the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), and European Medicines Agency (EMA)
- Membership in the European Union Reference Laboratory for alternatives to animal testing (EURL ECVAM) stakeholder forum
- Participation in expert committees of the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission

### Public Awareness and Training

The Science Consortium ensures that information regarding the use of non-animal tests is accessible to all. It [publishes](#) articles in peer-reviewed journals and presents its work at scientific conferences. It also writes and distributes informative [factsheets](#) and organises [free workshops and webinars](#) as well as training sessions for regulators.

“ PETA Science Consortium International has proven to be one of our best collaborators and many of our efforts simply would not have been possible without them. Their dedication to rigorous science and quality work has earned the Science Consortium a well-deserved reputation as an organization at the forefront of changing the way toxicology testing is done: significantly reducing animal testing while improving human health relevance. ”

– WARREN CASEY, PhD, DABT

Executive Director, Interagency Coordinating Committee  
on the Validation of Alternative Methods  
Acting Chief, Biomolecular Screening Branch,  
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

## SELECT AREAS OF EXPERTISE

### ■ Agrochemicals

The Science Consortium collaborates with governments and industry to implement non-animal toxicity testing methods for agrochemicals. These efforts include projects to replace animal tests for eye irritation, ecological toxicity, and carcinogenicity.

### ■ Industrial Chemicals

The Science Consortium meets with relevant authorities and participates in expert working groups to ensure that non-animal methods are used whenever possible to meet regulatory requirements. The Science Consortium organised a free [webinar series](#) in collaboration with Chemical Watch on REACH requirements and with the US Environmental Protection Agency on fulfilling testing requirements using alternative approaches. Acting as an intervener in ECHA Board of Appeal cases, the Science Consortium seeks to annul requests for animal tests.

### ■ Medical Device Biocompatibility

The Science Consortium assists medical device companies in adopting non-animal test methods to replace required *in vivo* biocompatibility tests and navigating the associated regulatory pathways. It also supports the use of non-animal test methods by organising workshops, coordinating projects under the [US Food and Drug Administration's Medical Device Development Tools \(MDDT\) programme](#), and securing pre-submission consultations with regulatory agencies.

### ■ Recombinant Antibodies

The Science Consortium co-hosted a meeting of key experts to outline a plan to accelerate the production and use of [non-animal recombinant antibodies](#), resulting in a webinar series to increase awareness, a publication demonstrating the scientific benefits of recombinant antibodies, and the Recombinant Antibody Challenge to increase funding in this area. The Science Consortium also funded the development of fully human recombinant antibodies to replace equine-derived diphtheria antitoxin and black widow spider antivenom. As the sponsor of investigational new drugs, the Science Consortium engages with regulatory agencies on non-animal approaches to pre-clinical drug development.

### ■ Inhalation Toxicity

The Science Consortium designs and funds experiments to build confidence in non-animal [inhalation toxicity testing](#), donates *in vitro* human respiratory tract tissue models to researchers, leads efforts to standardise *in vitro* testing protocols, and hosts webinars and workshops on the topic. It also helped fund the development of the first commercially available three-dimensional *in vitro* model of the human lower respiratory tract (EpiAlveolar™) and awarded five VITROCELL® *in vitro* inhalation exposure devices to laboratories around the world.

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