

USE OF ANIMALS IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

The American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) strongly supports the responsible use of animals in biomedical research conducted with the goal of advancing biomedical science in service to animal and human health. It is essential that this research be performed in accordance with all laws, regulations and policies governing the care and use of animals in research. This position affirms the essential role of research involving live animals in advancement of biomedical knowledge. This research is foundational to advancements in animal and human health and well-being¹. It is recognized that the use of animals in biomedical research is necessary and that it carries unique professional, scientific, and moral obligations, and ethical responsibilities². This requires that biomedical research involving animals: adheres to the highest standards of animal care; is conducted by individuals with proper training; involves sound, robust experimental design; and advances experimental protocols that reduce or eliminate animal pain and distress. The AAVMC is committed in support of biomedical research involving animals that is ethical, responsible and humane³, and to research aimed at refining, reducing, and replacing animal use where possible and appropriate.

Sources:

¹ American Veterinary Medical Association: [Use of animals in research, testing, and education](#)

² Association of American Medical Colleges: [Animals in Medical Education and Research](#)

³ National Association for Biomedical Research: [The Importance of Animal Research](#)

[AAALAC International](#)

[Foundation for Biomedical Research](#)

Jurisdiction:	Task Force on the Use of Animals in Biomedical Research	Date of Last Review:	
Approved by:	Board of Directors	Date Last Amended:	
First Approved:	March 7, 2023	Date of Next Review:	2028
Historical References:	On October 17, 2022, the AAVMC Board of Directors approved the establishment of a Task Force to develop a position statement on the Use of Animals in Biomedical Research. The Task Force met via teleconference and reviewed multiple position statements from other organizations to develop the statement.		