

Charter on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals

In discovery and development of new medicines and vaccines and in ensuring the quality of licensed drugs and vaccines, sanofi-aventis fully supports replacing, reducing and refining the use of animals in research and testing. Because presently available alternatives do not obviate all animal use, sanofi-aventis remains morally and legally obligated to conduct animal research and testing.

As this is a privilege and responsibility, demanding the utmost consideration and respect, we maintain a global “Culture of Care” for all our animals. The following principles, applied globally within the entire sanofi-aventis Group, ensure the highest standard of animal care and use:

- 1. sanofi-aventis holds animal welfare as fundamental. Teams expert in veterinary medicine, animal science, and animal welfare ensure the highest possible standard of treatment and care practices. Programs and facilities are designed to meet or exceed local and national laws and regulations. Global standards are maintained that meet those used by international laboratory animal care accrediting associations.*
- 2. Internal ethics committees are monitoring and supervising all aspects of animal welfare. All use of animals is reviewed and must be approved by these committees prior to any use.*
- 3. Animals are used only where there is a firm expectation that the results will contribute to the protection and/or improvement of human health and safety.*
- 4. Animals are used only when valid non-animal alternatives do not exist, and in the case where the alternatives are not yet recognized by regulatory authorities.*
- 5. Those animals used are the fewest in number and “lowest” phylogenetically necessary to achieve the scientific and/or regulatory objective. All are specifically supplied for use by qualified and licensed breeders or suppliers.*
- 6. Animals are treated humanely, with housing and care complying with internationally accepted guidelines and environmental enrichment consistent with sound scientific principles.*
- 7. All personnel caring for and using animals are adequately trained and competent, and retrained regularly.*
- 8. Animals never experience unnecessary pain or distress. Anesthetics and analgesics are used wherever necessary and feasible. Prolonged physical restraint is used only when alternative procedures are inadequate. Humane endpoints are defined. Finally, euthanasia is always by a recommended or approved humane method.*
- 9. External studies are contracted only where these principles are met.*

sanofi-aventis will investigate any failure to abide by the above principles. If substantiated, such action will provide grounds for disciplinary action. No employee will be discriminated against or subject to reprisal for reporting concerns of animal use, care and welfare, or any potential deficiencies or possible violations.