



Advancing Research Together





- Sound public policy for the humane use of animals in research
 - Legislation
 - Regulation
 - The courts



Disclaimers

- Not a research scientist
- Do not think NAMs, MPS, organs-on-chips, computer models are worthless, but limitations should be acknowledged and must be validated
- Our approach when educating the public and policy makers:
 - Do not take an either/or approach – Science requires ALL OF THE ABOVE
- Claiming no need for animal research & testing is a bridge too far
 - Science still needs to understand the effects of treatments on full living systems

First Principles Question:

Are Nonhuman Primates Still Necessary?

Preponderance of the Evidence:

Nonhuman Primates are Still Necessary

- Examples abound
- 2017 - Pathogens and Immunity: *The Critical Role of Nonhuman Primates in Medical Research*
- 2018 -Foundation for Biomedical Research: Understanding the Leidos Reports <https://fbresearch.org/medical-advances/whyprimates/>

Another First Principles Question:

Do Researchers Have the Resources Necessary to
Complete their Jobs?

In many cases, the answer is no.

WHY NOT?

The Atlantic

“America Is Running Low on a Crucial Resource for COVID-19 Vaccines,” The Atlantic, Aug. 31, 2020

The New York Times

“Future Vaccines Depend on Test Subjects in Short Supply: Monkeys,” The New York Times, Feb. 23, 2021

Bloomberg

“Airlines Accused of Discrimination for Banning Lab Monkeys,” Bloomberg, Dec. 5, 2018

Mother Jones

“A Plane of Monkeys, a Pandemic, and a Botched Deal: Inside the Science Crisis You’ve Never Heard Of
Experts say there’s a dire shortage of primates for biomedical research—and it’s putting human lives at risk.” Mother Jones, June 23, 2022

WHY NOT?

- Special interest groups have pressured most major airlines out of transporting NHPs for research
- At the onset of pandemic China halted all exports of NHPs
- NIH reprioritized NHP research to focus on COVID

Cause and Effect

- Global supply chains interrupted, costs fluctuate wildly
- Research institutions forced to seek other sources
- Some projects halted, some may never restart
- Major biopharma never tested COVID treatment due to lack of NHP availability at BSL-3 facilities

Solutions?

- Funding – Administration Request for Additional NPRC Funding
 - Great first step
 - Requires buy-in from Congress
- Public Private Partnership
 - Already exists
 - Pharma relies on Academic Basic Research to bring therapies to market
 - Partnership with CROs exist, but could be strengthened
- Invest in NHP breeding on U.S. Soil
 - Geopolitical risks increasing
 - Supply chain uncertainties continue
 - Cost fluctuations are disruptive
 - Are we truly prepared for the next pandemic?

National Primate Plan

Prepared by
Interagency
Primate
Steering
Committee

October 1978

National Primate Plan

1978

Produced by the
NIH's Interagency Primate Steering Committee

U. S. DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH, EDUCATION,
AND WELFARE
Public Health Service
National Institutes of Health

DHEW Publication
No. (NIH)80-1520

In the interest of American public health, American competitiveness, and even national security we *must* consider options to increase breeding operations on U.S. soil...

Doing so requires government support.

Doing nothing will drive research to more accommodating countries.

Thank You

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