

## Use of animals in research

The Academy considers the use of animals to be essential in biomedical research in order to better understand the living body and what goes wrong in disease, and to develop safe and effective ways of preventing or treating those diseases. When funding research it is important for us to know if any animals will be used and, if so, that they comply with the [Academy's Policy and Position](#) on the use of animals in research. The Academy is also a signatory of the [Concordat on Openness on Animal Research](#) and would expect all awardees to adhere to its commitments. In addition, we aim to ensure that every effort is made to replace, refine and reduce animals in research. For more information, please see [www.nc3rs.org.uk](http://www.nc3rs.org.uk).

## Guidance

Applicants proposing to use animals in their research must ensure that the use of animals falls within the regulations stipulated in the UK Animals (Scientific Procedures Act) 1986 (ASPA) and subsequent amendments. Welfare standards consistent with the principles of UK legislation must be applied and maintained, wherever the work is conducted.

If the proposed research involves animal experiments, we encourage you to consult the NC3R's [Experimental Design Assistant](#) (EDA) to help you design your study. This complements the [ARRIVE guidelines](#) (Animal Research: Reporting of *In Vivo* Experiments) for reporting animal research. Our awardees are required to follow these guidelines when conducting research using animals to improve the design, analysis and reporting of animal research, maximising information published and minimising unnecessary studies. Further useful guidelines and practical information on the use of animals can also be obtained from the [3Rs resource library](#).

We will send grant applications for NC3R's review should they involve:

- non-human primates
- dogs
- cats
- equines
- pigs
- a large number of any other animal

Should any concerns be raised by the NC3R's, any awarded grant may be conditional on the concerns being addressed.

You are also encouraged to refer to the [PREPARE guidelines](#) when planning your animal experiments.

Ethical approval will be required for any research involving animals. This approval doesn't need to have been obtained prior to application but must be in place prior to any research being undertaken.