

Charter on Animal Welfare

We - the Swiss research based pharmaceutical companies - are committed to improving the quality of human and animal life by providing products and services for the diagnosis and treatment of diseases . Striving to develop high quality, novel therapies and medicines we are using the most advanced technologies and methods.

An indispensable part of our efforts to develop and test new treatments is animal research. The appropriate use of laboratory animals uncovers the basic workings of diseases and ensures that medicines are safe and effective. Without this fundamental basis for research and development, a wide range of medicines and treatments which today benefit society and patients would not exist.

We are aware that by conducting animal research, we are legally and ethically obliged to apply the highest possible standards in animal studies. It is a responsibility that we take very seriously. Therefore, we have adopted the following Charter on global animal welfare principles.

We commit to:

- 1) Apply and actively promote the 3Rs ¹ (Reduction, Refinement and Replacement of animal studies), especially with regard to the research, development and implementation of methods and techniques which allow to further replace animal studies, reduce the number of animals used or alleviate the pain and stress of laboratory animals,
- 2) We are committed to ensure high quality and state of the art housing and care conditions for our laboratory animals and we strive to continuously improve these conditions,
- 3) Develop and foster education and training for all our employees and associates who work with animals,
- 4) Contractually oblige external partners to comply with our high standards of animal welfare when they conduct animal studies for us or supply us with animals.
- 5) Apply vigorous internal auditing systems, which ensure compliance with the animal welfare standards agreed upon,
- 6) Join efforts in auditing our external partners on animal welfare standards and compliance on a global level,

¹ 3R-concept developed by Russel and Burch in 1959
<http://www.forschung3r.ch>
<http://www.nc3rs.org.uk/>

(contd.)

- 7) Promote, in addition to regular authority inspections, the development of external, independent assessment programs of our animal welfare standards and facilities on a global level,
- 8) Promote the validation and regulatory acceptance of methods which are suited to replace, reduce or refine animal studies,
- 9) Contribute to a continuous, open and constructive dialogue on animal research and welfare with the public at large as well as with authorities, policy makers and other interested stakeholders.
- 10) We will report annually on the progress made with regard to this Charter.

Interpharma is the association of research-based pharmaceutical companies in Switzerland. We are committed to create conditions conducive to innovation in both Switzerland and abroad so as to promote pharmaceutical research, development and production.

Full members of Interpharma (in alphabetical order):

Actelion Ltd & Actelion Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Allschwil, CH
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The Interpharma companies Novartis, Roche, Merck Serono, Actelion, Vifor Pharma and Cilag in 2008 have on a global level been spending approx. 17 Billion Swiss Francs for R&D, representing roughly 22% of their total revenues. Worldwide these companies have employed more than 200'000 people. Novartis and Roche are ranking amongst the top ten pharmaceutical companies in the world.