

From September 28, 2004 through January 10, 2005 approximately 1300 email messages and 100 letters were received by the NTP from concerned private individuals. All of these submissions opposed the NTP study nominations announced in the August 20, 2004 Federal Register Notice (69FR51691) and the use of animals in the NTP's testing program in general. Many of the emails were form letters as in the example submission immediately below. The remaining submissions were original comments of varying length as in the other examples below.

From: <deleted>
Date: Friday, October 1, 2004 11:11 PM
To: <MASTEN.SCOTT>, <OLDEN>
Subject: RE: Ask the NTP to Pull the Plug on Poisoning Tests on Newborn Primates

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Each year, the National Toxicology Program (NTP) spends millions of tax dollars to poison animals in crude and outdated tests of chemical toxicity. What's worse is that the NTP actively encourages people to nominate chemicals that they would like to see tested on animals. This has led to a veritable laundry list of ill-conceived NTP testing recommendations, including proposals to conduct extensive animal testing of plant extracts that have been used without harm for generations as dietary supplements (e.g., grapeseed and pine bark extracts), as well as proposals to retest such well-known hazardous substances as turpentine and antifreeze.

The NTP's latest testing recommendations spell suffering and death to many thousands of animals:

- The Food and Drug Administration nominated Di-(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (a chemical used in plastic IV bags) for studies of reproductive, immune, and other effects that would involve injection of the substance into newborn male rats and nonhuman primates.
- The Environmental Protection Agency nominated "perfluorinated

compounds" for extensive study, including cancer and reproduction testing, on the basis of "presumed" widespread human exposure, despite the fact that large amounts of human and animal toxicity data are already available for these chemicals.

- A "private individual" recommended that the dietary supplement "bitter orange extract" undergo "subchronic" toxicity studies (which means force-feeding the substance to animals every day for three to six months), as well as testing for metabolic and cardiovascular responses and birth defects in animals.

Animals are not test tubes with whiskers. Please pull the plug on the animal tests recommended in June by the NTP Interagency Committee for Chemical Evaluation and Coordination.

From: <deleted>
Date: Wednesday, 29 September 2004 18:31:37 +0000
To: <MASTEN.SCOTT>
Subject: NTP

please do not test on animals. It is cruel and not needed. Look at this website for alternative options. www.stopanimaltests.com

Thank You
For the Animals,

From: <deleted>
Date: Monday, 4 October 2004 00:12:39 +0000
To: <OLDEN>, <MASTEN.SCOTT>
Subject: Animal Tests

I am very upset to learn of the tests that the NTP encourages and performs on animals. Something so blatant as poisoning animals should be a taboo. I realize that it is not always possible to suddenly drop 100% of animal tests, but that is no excuse for failing to do whatever possible to cut down these tests and eventually move beyond them completely. Do not promote them, do not carry them out if not absolutely necessary (under what conditions would you do this to humans?), and do not pretend the problem does not exist.

Thank you,

From: <deleted>
Date: Friday, 22 October 2004 02:37:54 +0000
To: <MASTEN.SCOTT>
Subject: Please stop poisoning tests on newborn primates

Dear Dr. Masten,

I would like to express my deepest sadness regarding all the chemical tests that are conducted on Newborn Primates. I totally disagree with this project that causes suffering and death to many thousands of animals.

Please note, that animals are not test tubes with whiskers, consequently I would like to ask you to stop those useless tests.

Sincerely yours,

From: <deleted>
Date: Friday, 10 December 2004 02:33:26 +0000
To: <MASTEN.SCOTT>
Subject: Testing

Here it is really simple, Animals have all the feelings we do. Just because we have the power to control them is not a reason to hurt and damage them. We have other ways of testing and we SHOULD use them. The tests aren't even 100% accurate due to the fact we are all different species. I am a realistic person, and know that my letter to you wont stop all the animal cruelty that happens every were. But maybe while you read these words that are so very important to me, you will begin to think of other more humane was to do your job.

Thank you for your time.