



Workshop: Alternatives to the Murine Histamine Sensitization Test (HIST) for Acellular Pertussis Vaccines: Progress and Challenges in the Replacement of HIST

Sunday 24 August, Prague

Pertussis, also known as whooping cough, is a highly contagious bacterial disease and a major cause of childhood mortality, but widespread vaccination has decreased its incidence substantially. Regulatory authorities require testing prior to the release of each production lot of pertussis or pertussis antigen-containing vaccines. The murine histamine sensitization test (HIST) is a key safety test performed. However, such testing uses many mice, some of which can experience significant unrelieved pain and distress.

Key objectives:

- Bring together scientists from government, industry, academia, and research institutions to review and discuss the implementation of *in vitro* assays as alternatives to the HIST.
- Review the current framework for regulatory acceptance of a harmonized approach for alternative *in vitro* assays to HIST, in the context of recent international progress in the development of such alternative assays.

The workshop is organized by the International Working Group on Alternatives to the HIST a consortium of interested stakeholders representing government, industry, and research institutions.

This workshop is sponsored by the NC3Rs and held in conjunction with the [9th World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences](#), Prague, Czech Republic.

Registration:

Attendance is free but due to space limitations, [pre-registration is strongly recommended](#). If you have any queries about this event please contact Katie Lidster: katie.lidster@nc3rs.org.uk.

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