



Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods

ICCVAM Communication Activities

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SACATM

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Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry • Consumer Product Safety Commission • Department of Agriculture
Department of Defense • Department of Energy • Department of the Interior • Department of Transportation
Environmental Protection Agency • Food and Drug Administration • National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
National Institutes of Health • National Cancer Institute • National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
National Library of Medicine • Occupational Safety and Health Administration

From ICCVAM Vision Document:

- In order to improve communications, ICCVAM is making plans to:
 - Improve the ICCVAM and NICEATM websites
 - Achieve broader engagement with the scientific community and stakeholders (e.g., the regulated community, public interest groups) through a number of different mechanisms, such as:
 - focused workshops with well-defined objectives,
 - community of practice webinars,
 - face-to-face forums.

Web Site

- Significant changes in infrastructure:
 - Integrated into NTP web site (switched servers)
 - Consolidated site content, over 100 webpages and 1500 files removed
 - Three content management systems (CMS) in two years

Web Site

- “Ask ICCVAM” dialog box added

Email Us

Note: * denotes required information.

Contact Information

Title:

* First Name:

* Last Name:

Organization:

* Email Address:

Phone:

Email Information

To:

Subject:

* Comments / Questions :

Web Site

- New “3Rs Topics” , plain language description of toxicity testing requirements and 3R-related activities

National Toxicology Program
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Home Testing Information Study Results & Research Projects **Public Health** About the NTP

Home » Public Health » Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods » 3Rs Topics

3Rs Topics

NICEATM supports efforts to replace, reduce, or refine the use of animals in research and testing. Methods that use fewer or no animals, or that refine animal use (reduce animal pain and distress), are referred to as alternative methods; replacement, reduction, and refinement are referred to as the "3Rs."

See below for information about topics relevant to NICEATM 3Rs activities.

Allergic Contact Dermatitis: What Is It, and Why Should I Care About It?

If you've ever had a case of [poison ivy](#), you know how unpleasant it is. It produces red, itching, weeping and blistered skin. The effects can last for weeks and it can have a major effect on your daily life.

Poison ivy is an example of allergic contact dermatitis (ACD). To get the rash, you have to be *allergic* to poison ivy, and your bare skin must come in *contact* with the plant or its sap. The resulting rash is the *dermatitis* of ACD.

Sensitizers can cause allergic reactions

An allergy is an immune reaction to a foreign substance. Such a foreign substance is called an allergen or, in the case of ACD, a sensitizer. Except for their allergenic properties, sensitizers are generally (though not always) relatively harmless substances. Why sensitizers result in ACD in some people but not others is not fully understood – we do know that allergies can be hereditary, so sensitivity may be part of your genetic makeup.

The first time you encounter a sensitizer, you might become sensitized. You'll have no visible symptoms, but the sensitizer triggers a complex physiological reaction. This will cause your cells to produce substances that damage your body the next time you are exposed to the sensitizer. The outward symptom of that damage is the ACD rash.

ACD is a common occupational illness

ACD is often considered an [occupational illness](#) because it can develop in a variety of workplace settings. Workers in professions as diverse as farming, construction, food handling, or hairdressing may be at risk. Even office workers might be exposed to sensitizers such as rubber, nickel, or glue.

Disseminating Information

- ICCVAM-All listserv
- ***New*** Adverse Outcome Pathways Community listserv

2014 Workshops

- Aquatic Models and 21st Century Technology w/ NCSU
- Toxicological Applications of Zebrafish (NTP)
- Alternatives to the Murine Histamine Sensitization Test w/ NC3Rs
- Adverse Outcome Pathways w/ PCRM

2015 Workshops Planned

- *In vitro* methods to assess the inhalation toxicity of nanomaterials w/ PETA
 - March 16-17th 2015, Washington DC area
- Alternatives to Acute Oral Toxicity Testing
 - Q2 2015, NIH Bethesda, MD
- Development of Good Cell Culture Practice for iPSC
 - CAAT Workshop

Key Publications

- **ICCVAM Biennial Progress Report 2012-2013** published 7/29/2014
- *Profiling of the Tox21 10K compound library for agonists and antagonists of the estrogen receptor alpha signaling pathway*, Huang et al., Nature Scientific Reports, published online ahead of print 7/11/2014.
- *Report on the international workshop on alternatives to the murine histamine sensitization test (HIST) for acellular pertussis vaccines: State of the science and the path forward*. Isbrucker et al., Biologicals 42(2):114-122
- *t4 Workshop Report: Lessons Learned, Challenges, and Opportunities: The U.S. Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program*. Juberg et al., ALTEX 31:63-78.
- *Open source software implementation of an integrated testing strategy for skin sensitization potency based on a Bayesian network*. Pirone et al., ALTEX 31:336-340.

Stakeholder Engagement

- First Annual ICCVAM Public Forum, June 25, 2014
- Community of Practice webinar planned for January 28th, 2014: *In vitro* to *in vivo* extrapolation (IVIVE)
- Aim to provide stakeholders an opportunity to interact with ICCVAM at least three times per year (SACATM, Community of Practice, Public Forum)

SACATM Charge Questions

- Please comment on whether current communication efforts, as outlined above, are adequate for keeping interested stakeholders informed about ICCVAM activities.
- Please suggest any other communication efforts that ICCVAM might consider.