Opportunities to Reduce Animal Use in the Carcinogenicity Evaluation of New Drugs A 5-minute case study in counting animals

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Counting the animals used:

- Suggests opportunities to reduce animal use
- Estimates the potential for reductions (low-hanging fruit)
- Measures progress toward replacement

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 31,258 rats
 52 x 104 wk
 601.1 rats/study
 400?

 24,504 mice
 33 x 104 wk
 742.5 mice/study
 400?

 9,579 rasH2
 24 x 26 wk
 399.1 rasH2/study
 210?

65,341 animals 109 studies

"... it is suggested that for each sex there should initially be at least 50 animals per treated group, and one control group of the same number for each sex dosed with the vehicle by the same route." EMA/CPMP/SWP/2877/00

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Total Number of Animals Used per Control and Dose Group in Main and Satellite Studies



Total Number of Animals Used per Control and Dose Group in Main Studies



□ Main Carcinogenicity Control □ Main Carcinogenicity Dose

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"There are two categories of studies with dual control groups. The first category usually consists of studies using an untreated control group and a vehicle control group... The second category includes studies that use two identical control groups..." FDA, 2001. Guidance for Industry: Statistical Aspects of the Design, Analysis, and Interpretation of Chronic Rodent Carcinogenicity Studies of Pharmaceuticals.



Average Number of Animals Used per Control and Dose Group in Main and Toxicokinetics Studies



• Microsampling can reduce pain and distress in animals and improve animal welfare (refinement).

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Microsample blood to eliminate TK satellite: 12,203 animals Replace 33 long-term studies in mice: 11,332 mice Waive 15 studies in rats based on chronic toxicity: 8,410 rats 4,482 animals Use single negative control groups: Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine 6



Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology



Joseph Manuppello, Eryn Slankster-Schmierer, Kristie Sullivan, Elizabeth Baker. Animal Use and Opportunities for Reduction in Carcinogenicity Studies Supporting Approved New Drug Applications in the U.S., 2015-2019. In revision.

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