

Attention: Scientific Advisory Committee on Alternative Toxicological Methods Meeting

Date received: September 3, 2025

Federal Register Notice: ( 90FR29572-29573 )

Private Citizen

Comments: "While I understand the goal to get a way from animal research, as someone who runs a lab and studies complex interactions between the immune system, the brain, and a microbe- I have yet to see any non-animal model that comes close to recapitulating these complicated interactions. Brain organoids lack the peripheral immune response which is always activated and influencing the brain prior to microbial invasion. And studying things in a dish only ever tells you what might happen, rather than what does happen. Eliminating animal studies is likely to lead to missed opportunities and inaccurate models of what actually occurs in vivo."