



The European Partnership  
for Alternative Approaches to Animal Testing

# **Outcome from EPAA Workshop on 2Rs Combining Excellence in Science and Animal Welfare**

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# Background

- Significant effort toward full Replacement of animals, but  
→ important advances continuously made in Reduction and Refinement
- As full Replacement cannot be envisaged in a short-term, animal models are still critical tools in the decision-making process
- EPAA Workshop on 2Rs in Brussels on 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> October  
→ debates on examples of 2Rs applications in different sectors

# EPAA Workshop on 2Rs

## Recommendations I

- Promote 2Rs whilst keeping Replacement as the ultimate goal
- Use existing data for animal model comparative purposes
- Science to be the driver in bringing 2Rs in regulatory guidance
- Raise public awareness of the value of 2Rs
- Promote and widen international dialogue on Refinement toward a common understanding of animal welfare value
- Advocate coherence and consistency in research funding of all the 3Rs.

# EPAA Workshop on 2Rs

## Recommendations II

- Foster strong dialogue between industries and regulators to ensure constant 2Rs application in *in vivo* studies
- Maintain a focus on Reduction and Refinement in the 2<sup>nd</sup> five-year programme:
  - Reduction, Refinement & Replacement integrated in effective work streams
  - 2Rs implementation in regulatory toxicology
  - Collaboration/coordination with FELASA

# Specific EPAA action suggestions

- Set up an expert group on 2Rs-oriented approaches to repeat dose toxicity
- Identify early and reliable endpoints to define MTD prior to any severe effect onset
- Set up a working group to identify measurable 3Rs KPIs and metrics
- Facilitate sharing of new 2Rs-oriented approaches
- Advocate 2Rs-oriented guideline review
- Develop a guidance for flexible, non-prescriptive guideline interpretation/application
- Draw up a communication policy on 2Rs

# CONCLUSIONS

- In a strategy to **promote the 3Rs, Reduction and Refinement** currently play an **important role**
- It is the **EPAA duty** to raise **awareness of Reduction and Refinement values** in the context of the 3Rs and to communicate this to **regulators, risk assessors, policy makers and the public**
- The next five years plan **promotes the application of 2Rs in the context of the 3Rs** to every possible audience and **communicates their critical role** given the current technological state-of-the art

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