



MEDIA RELEASE

23rd April 2018

WORLD DAY FOR LABORATORY ANIMALS 24th April 2018

World Day for Laboratory Animals is an annual event that aims to highlight the plight of millions of animals worldwide who continue to suffer unethical, inhumane and unnecessary experimentation in research laboratories.

Latest statistics indicate that over [10 million animals](#) are used for experimentation purposes annually in Australia. Australia has been cited as the fourth highest user of animals in the world, behind only China, Japan and the United States.

HRA Chief Executive Helen Marston: *“It’s time to open the laboratory doors; for far too long the scientists and research facilities in this country have been operating unchallenged within a largely self-regulated system. Everyday Australians have a right to know what is occurring within our medical and scientific research facilities as much of the research being conducted is taxpayer funded.*

Humane Research Australia focuses on opposing animal experiments on both ethical and scientific grounds. We have recently exposed experiments on baby marmoset monkeys whereby [lesions were induced in their brains](#), and [mice forced to inhale cigarette smoke](#) – all funded by Australian taxpayers.

The Australian public deserves better, tax payers are currently funding antiquated and unnecessary research on animals that has proven to be unreliable when extrapolated to human health.

*Nine out of ten drugs deemed “successful” in animal tests fail in human clinical trials. Let’s stop wasting our tax dollars on cruel, ineffective and unnecessary animal experiments, and instead direct funding to ethical, scientifically valid research that is more likely to result in genuine medical progress.”*Ms Marston concluded.

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