

# D Grade Round 2

## *That we should ban animal testing*

### Background:

Animal testing refers to “testing performed on live animals for the purposes of researching basic biology and diseases, assessing the effectiveness of new medicinal products, and testing the human health and/or environmental safety of consumer and industry products”.

Animal testing may cause a lot of suffering. Animals may be forcibly exposed to chemicals and drugs, deprived of their physical and psychological needs, infected with disease and inflicted with wounds, or experimented with genetically. Often, animals are bred specifically for testing purposes and are killed right after.

However, animals used for testing are genetically very similar to humans and hence often respond to medicine and chemicals in a similar way as humans would. Nothing so far has been able to substitute for animals because life is too complex to replicate. Animal testing helps researchers test potential medical treatments and identify undesired side effects.

Affirmative teams: What harms are incurred by animals during animal testing? Do animals have a right not to be harmed? Is animal testing even reliable to begin with? What are the alternatives to animal testing and are they more accurate?

Negative teams: Are there benefits to animal testing? Are animals necessarily harmed by animal testing? What will the world look like without animal testing? Are there feasible alternatives to animal testing and are they reliable and economically viable? What are the social implications of the ban?

### Questions for consideration:

- Why do we use animal testing in the first place, what are the benefits?
- What harms are incurred during animal testing? Is it fair for animals to be harmed?
- Are there regulations in place to limit the amount of suffering animals are subject to?
- How reliable is animal testing?
- What are the alternatives to animal testing?
- What are the implications of banning animal testing? How will this affect medical research and our quality of life?
- How should we weigh the harms of animal testing against its benefits on human life?

## Resources:

About Animal Testing

<https://www.hsi.org/news-media/about/>

Animal research: is it a necessary evil?

<https://theconversation.com/animal-research-is-it-a-necessary-evil-95815>

Why animal research?

<https://med.stanford.edu/animalresearch/why-animal-research.html>

Why animals are used

<http://www.animalresearch.info/en/designing-research/why-animals-are-used/>

Failure of Animal Models

<https://www.navs.org/the-issues/failure-of-the-animal-model/#.YC8WoxMzaJk>