

LANXESS Position on Animal Studies



LANXESS manufactures chemicals that are used by our customers around the world - also for the production of goods intended for consumer or animal use. It is our responsibility to actively demonstrate the safe use of our products to support the protection of living beings and follow legal requirements, which in some cases may require the use of animal studies.

Commitment

LANXESS is committed to avoid animal testing unless where legally required or where alternatives are not available to ensure adequate reliability and quality of data necessary for the safe use of our products. We follow the well accepted 3R concept to reduce, replace or refine animal testing wherever possible and also encourage commissioned contract laboratories or testing facilities to act in accordance.

Approach

For relevant substances or products, the LANXESS team of substance evaluation experts is committed to reduce, replace or refine animal testing where no other options exist to determine the information required for a registration or authorization or to ensure product safety. Responsibility on the final decision on animal testing lies with the top management of the individual Business Units and Group Functions, with a direct reporting line to the Management Board.

Our systematic approach to reduce or refine animal testing includes the evaluation and use of existing information on the substance or similar substances, the exchange of relevant data with other stakeholders and the application of alternative methods, like in silico (computational) or in vitro (cell based) methods. We invest in qualitative/quantitative structure-activity relationship (QSAR) models application and we support the work of Cefic on New Approach Methods (NAMs).

Commissioning of contract laboratories

LANXESS does not conduct animal testing in-house. We apply high standards in the selection of our service providers. They include the adherence to high animal welfare standards in line with this Position Paper – e.g. the application of internationally standardized methods (OECD Test Guidelines, EFSA Guidelines) in compliance with the Principles of Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) or AAALAC (Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International).

We encourage our contract laboratories to continuously refine their testing methods in the interest of animal welfare. In general, we contractually reserve the right to inspect commissioned laboratories on a regular and event-driven basis with regard to animal welfare standards.