

Helping the public to understand animal research

Wendy Jarrett

June 20 2014



-
- Quick intro to UAR
 - What does the UK public think about animal research?
 - Why does this matter?
 - Why should we be more open about animal research?
 - Establishing a European Animal Research Association
 - Developing a Concordat on Openness on Animal Research

Understanding Animal Research

- Merger of Research Defence Society and Coalition for Medical Progress – January 2009
- More than 100 member organisations:
 - University departments, learned societies, animal technologists, lab animal vets, medical research charities, pharma industry, research funders, patient groups, breeders, CROs
- 10 employees

Three areas of activity

- Education
- Policy
- Communications

Getting the message across

Channels we use

THE  TIMES



ARE information service launched

Animal rights extremist information service launched to providing credible, accurate and balanced information about animal rights extremism. [Read more](#)

Latest News
Animal Rights
Extremism
across Europe



ScienceActionNetwork
@ARNonsenseRT

AR.i AnimalResearch.Info
The global resource for scientific evidence in Animal research



Public opinion on animal research

- “I can accept animal experimentation as long as it is for medical research purposes”
 - 2010 – 76%
 - 2012 – 66%
- 21% think the government should ban all animal research
- 43% lack trust in the regulation of animal research
- 40% would like more information

Why do we need acceptance?



Why do we need to be open?



Why do we need to be open?



Why can we not just keep quiet?

Gateway to Hell

Write something...

Post

Gateway to Hell created an event.
23 hours ago

Help us stop the latest ABX Air primate shipment!
June 2
online
315 people are going

Like · Comment · Share

8 people like this.

Aktionsgruppe Nord gegen Versuchstierhandel und Tierversuche shared in germany!
22 hours ago · Like · 2

Air Souffrance - Marseille Shared here in france 😊
6 hours ago · Like

Silvia de Luna shared in Switerland
6 hours ago · Like

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Home > Media Centre > BUAV Latest News > Urgent Appeal - Help stop monkey shipments to the USA on 2nd June!

URGENT APPEAL - HELP STOP MONKEY SHIPMENTS TO THE USA ON 2ND JUNE!

27/05/2014

The BUAV has received a tip-off that ABX Air, a cargo airline head quartered in Ohio, USA, is scheduled to transport hundreds of monkeys from China to Texas on 2nd June. This recent photograph taken in China shows monkeys in wooden crates being loaded onto an ABX Air aircraft for an earlier shipment.

Thanks to the BUAV's Cargo Cruelty campaign, key international airlines have over the years stopped transporting primates destined for research. This is having a major impact on the US primate research industry in securing regular supplies of monkeys from China, a major supplier to the USA. The USA is the world's largest importer of monkeys for research and its primate companies are now commissioning cargo carriers to transport hundreds of monkeys in any one shipment from China to the USA.


Please write polite emails/letters to ABX Air urging it not to transport:

Address
ABX Air, Inc.
145 Hunter Drive
Wilmington, OH 45177

E-mail
communications@abxair.com

Complete the contact form:
<https://www.abxair.com/contact/index.cfm>

ABX air is a subsidiary of Air Transport Services Group 'ATSG'
Email: Investor.relations@atsginc.com



Coverage of threat to primate research

theguardian

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News > Science > Jane Goodall

Jane Goodall and Peter Gabriel urge Air France to stop ferrying lab monkeys

Primate expert and musician join Peta and anti-vivisection groups in plea to end cruel trade serving life sciences

James Meikle

theguardian.com, Tuesday 20 May 2014 18.30 BST

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Article history

Science

Jane Goodall · Animal experimentation · Primatology

Music

Peter Gabriel

Business

Airline industry · Virgin Atlantic · British Airways

World news

Animal welfare · Animals

More news



Jane Goodall (above, with a young chimp), stresses that primates are captured wild and forced to breed for lab procedures. Photograph: Bela Szandelszky/Rex

Robust responses

Air France robustly defended its engagement in what it claimed was a "highly supervised activity", saying it was vital to research and medicine in France and throughout Europe.

The European Animal Research Association (EARA) endorsed the airline's stance and told the Guardian it was "an embarrassment to UK life sciences that [British Airways](#) and [Virgin \(Atlantic\)](#) will not transport animals for medical research".

Air France claimed that the use of primates was vital for research in many medical areas, including diseases of the central nervous system, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases, depression, addiction to alcohol, and infectious diseases such as HIV, malaria and hepatitis C.

The airline said it complied with regulations and had "strict standards in terms of comfort and well-being to ensure animals [had] optimal conditions of transport". The airline had received numerous letters of support from various public or private research institutes, its statement said.

Leech, executive director of the EARA, recognised that some might feel "quite queasy" over the use of monkeys for research, but added: "It is that closeness to humanity which makes it, in specific examples, super important to use primates." Only 0.1% of UK scientific procedures on animals involved primates, he said.

Government support

Animals in medical research

The Guardian, Thursday 22 May 2014 16.57 BST



Regulated use of animals for research remains a vital tool for improving understanding of disease and ensuring the safety of new drugs. Photograph: public domain

The use of any animal for medical research rightly attracts public attention (Jane Goodall and Peter Gabriel urge Air France to stop ferrying lab monkeys, theguardian.com, 20 May). But the majority of people accept that animal research is currently essential to help deliver life-changing and life-saving new medicines. In the UK, it is illegal to use an animal in research if a validated non-animal alternative is available. Nevertheless, the carefully regulated use of animals remains a vital tool in improving our understanding of disease and ensuring the safety of new medicines.

The use of primates understandably provokes strong emotion. As your report recognises, they currently account for less than 0.1% of all animal procedures licensed by the Home Office, yet their highly regulated use has been of great importance in major medical advances such as life-support systems for premature babies and deep-brain stimulation to relieve the symptoms of Parkinson's disease.

The use of primates in research today is focused predominantly on major infectious diseases, such as treatments for tuberculosis, important neurological studies and new treatments for paralysis. In addition, UK and international law is clear that the vast majority of medicines intended for human use cannot be licensed without testing on animals, and primates are used for some of this testing, but only where they are shown to be the most appropriate species. While the coalition recognises the importance of such use of animals, we are implementing a plan to develop and adopt more non-animal alternatives in the UK and globally.

In the meantime, transport operators such as Air France, which is prepared to carry animals for research while ensuring high welfare standards during their journey, should not be criticised for adopting a socially responsible role in facilitating life-saving medical research.

David Willetts MP

Minister for universities and science

The patient voice

The image is a screenshot of the BBC News website. At the top, the BBC logo is on the left, and navigation links for News, Sport, Weather, iPlayer, TV, Radio, and More are on the right. Below this is a red banner with the word "NEWS" in large white letters and a "LIVE BBC NEWS CHANNEL" button. A timestamp indicates the page was last updated at 11:28 GMT on Wednesday, 12 November 2008. On the left side, there is a vertical menu with categories such as World, UK, England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Business, Politics, Health (highlighted), Medical notes, Education, Science & Environment, Technology, Entertainment, and Also in the news. The main content area features a video player with the title "Parkinson's patient on animal research". The video shows an elderly man with glasses and a blue shirt sitting in a chair, gesturing with his hands as he speaks.

Openness in practice



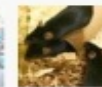
The image is a screenshot of a BBC News Leicester webpage. At the top, there is a red navigation bar with the BBC logo and links for News, Sport, Weather, iPlayer, TV, and Radio. Below this is a white header with 'NEWS LEICESTER' in red. A secondary navigation bar contains links for Home, World, UK, England, N. Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Business, Politics, Health, Education, and Sci/Env. The main headline reads 'University of Leicester animal research centre opens'. Below the headline is a video player showing a man in a blue lab coat and hairnet speaking in a laboratory setting with animal cages in the background. The video player has a progress bar at 00:51 of 01:50. Below the video, the text states: '1 October 2012 Last updated at 20:34'. A small question mark icon is visible to the right of the date. The main text of the article begins: 'Staff at a new animal research centre in Leicester say they want to be open about the work they do. Bosses from the University of Leicester's £16m Central Research Facility said they respected the views of those opposed to experiments on animals but said it was important the public understood the benefits of using animals in research.'

Explaining animal research



Italian researchers have rallied and organised flash mobs to argue for the benefits of their research, in response to recent animal rights events.
[Read more](#)

Latest News
Animal Rights Extremism across Europe



ARE Incident Map

The map highlights extremist activity and convictions across Europe and the world. You can browse news events describing criminal animal activist rights extremist activity...

[View the map](#)



European Animal Research Association



European Animal
Research Association

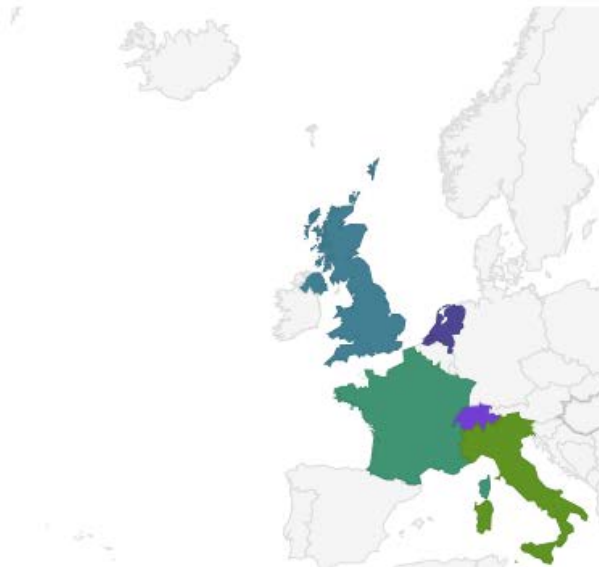
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Partners



- Increasingly effective tactics by activists
- Reduction in pro-active communication
- Breeders and supply chain have become targets
- No unified voice (public and private) for research
- Few national animal research advocacy/defence groups in the EU

Foundation of EARA

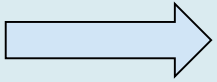
- Meeting hosted by EFPIA January 2013
- Requested expressions of interest to carry out an activity plan to help improve the current situation
- Understanding Animal Research (UK) submitted a Project Proposal
- Discussions with commercial and non-commercial organisations on coordinating activity across Europe
- EARA established March 2014, ED hired April.

Purpose of EARA

- **Facilitate:** the establishment of local animal research advocacy groups and networks in countries where they don't exist
- **Lead:** pan-European transport initiatives, to counter pressure on the lab animals supply chain and the license to use laboratory animals in research
- **Create:** a favourable climate for research using laboratory animals in Europe, through influencing national and EU decision makers
- **Maintain and improve:** a high level of public acceptance of medical research using animals, through a variety of communications means

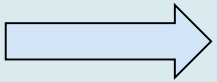
EARA action plan 2014

- Countries where there are successful or growing activist campaigns against the use of animals in research, and where there are no advocacy groups



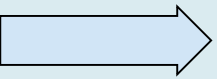
Italy, Germany, Belgium and Spain

- Collaborate with advocacy groups that do exist to create a pan EU network



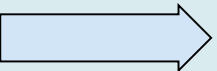
France, UK and Holland

- Encourage greater openness with the public on why we need to animal research



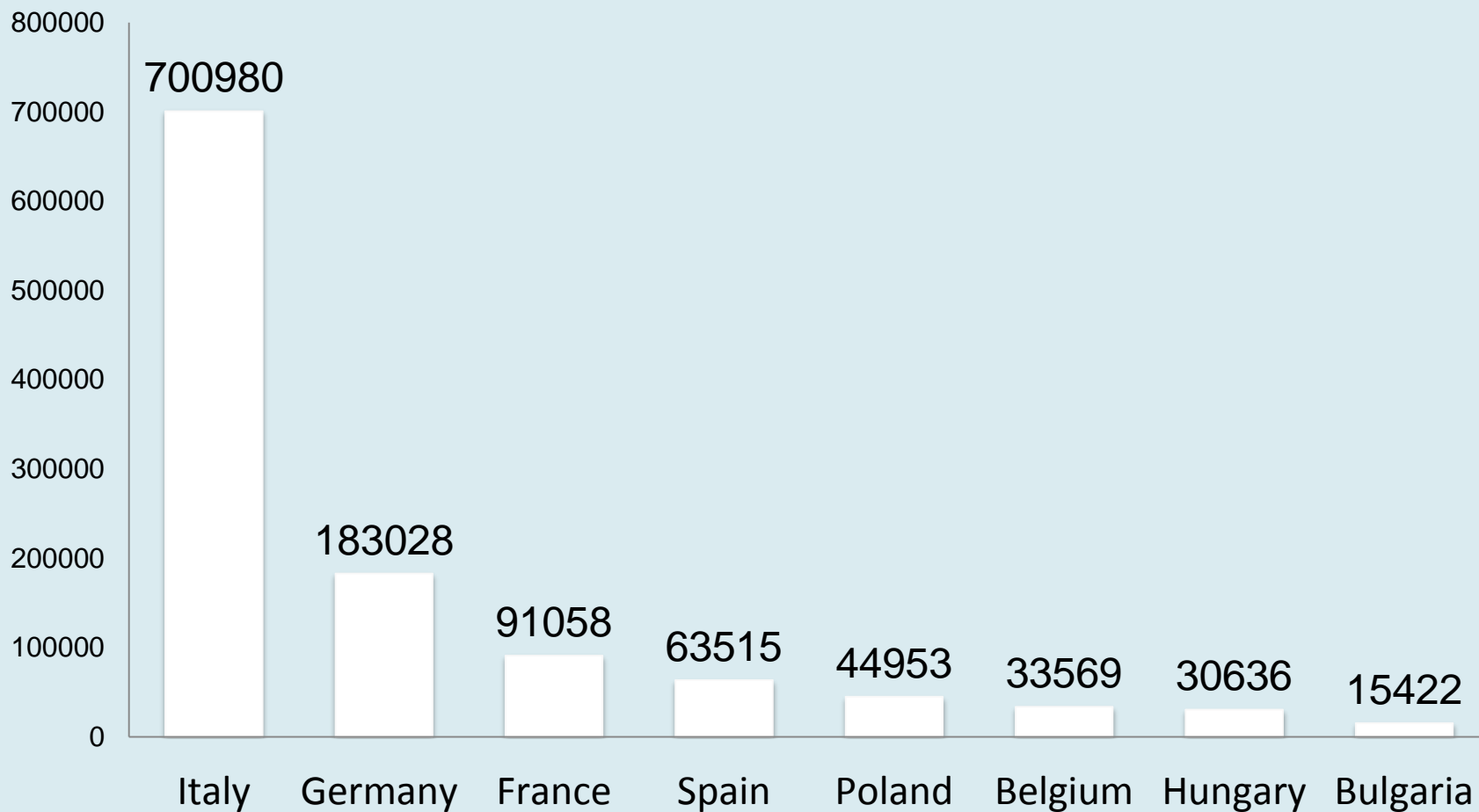
Academic Sector in the EU

- Lead campaigns to build greater choice and resilience into the transport of laboratory animals



Support for Air France and seek to involve another transport provider

EU Citizens Initiative Petition



European Animal Research Association

Kirk Leech
Executive Director

Kleech@eara.eu

www.eara.eu

Telephone 0044 0785 0480520

Concordat on Openness



Concordat development process

- Worked with 50+ organisations that carry out or fund animal research
- Steering and Working groups
- Public Dialogue process
- Discussions and workshops with media and organisations opposed to animal research
- Public consultation

Public Dialogue



What the public thinks

- Cosmetic testing
- Smoking beagles
- Dogs, cats and monkeys
- It's *always* worse than the reality

Aims of the Concordat

- Helping the public get more information about animal research
- Ensuring that organisations that carry out or fund animal research acknowledge that they need to earn the public's trust
- Talking clearly about the harms and limitations as well as the benefits and successes
- Providing more opportunities for the public to see animal research
- Normalising animal research

Concordat Commitments

1. We will be clear about when, how and why we use animals in research
2. We will enhance our communications with the media and the public about our research using animals
3. We will be proactive in providing opportunities for the public to find out about research using animals
4. We will report on progress annually and share our experiences

Normalising animal research

The screenshot shows a BBC News article page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the BBC logo, a search bar, and links for Sign in, News, Sport, Weather, iPlayer, TV, Radio, and More... Below this is a secondary navigation bar with categories like Home, World, UK, England, N. Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Business, Politics, Health, Education, Sci/Environment, Technology, and Entertainment & Arts. The main content area features a profile for Fergus Walsh, a medical correspondent, and the article title 'Why Oxford scientists are experimenting on monkeys' with 602 comments. A video player shows a monkey in a cage. The article text describes an experiment where a macaque chooses between two images (one purple, one black) to receive a treat. A 'Related Stories' section is visible on the right. A sidebar on the right contains 'Top Stories' and 'Features' sections with various article thumbnails and titles.

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28 January 2014 Last updated at 17:00

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Fergus Walsh
Medical correspondent
More from Fergus

Why Oxford scientists are experimenting on monkeys
COMMENTS (602)

See inside the Oxford animal laboratory

The macaque in front of me has a choice. Two differently coloured images have been slid in front of her cage.

She taps the purple picture and gets a treat. The next time she taps the black image. On this occasion not only does she get a reward, but a second monkey facing her does too.

This is an experiment in social decision-making, looking at the impact that our choices have on others. It's something humans and monkeys do every day.

The monkeys appear relaxed and interested - possibly more intrigued by

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- Inside the Oxford animal lab

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Time for walkies! Pet dogs paralysed by spine damage are able to walk again following pioneering treatment

- One owner described her previously paralysed pet 'whizzing around the house' following the treatment
- Earlier tests proved the treatment on rats, but the new study is the first to prove it can be effective more than 12 months after an injury

By NICK MCDERMOTT

PUBLISHED: 01:35, 19 November 2012 | UPDATED: 00:46, 20 November 2012

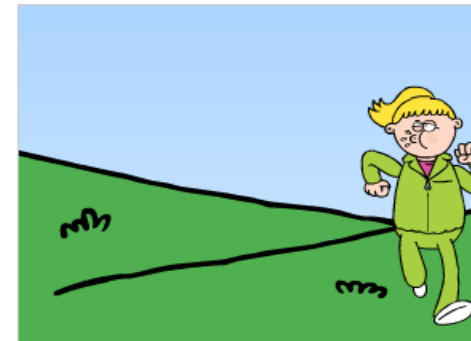
Comments (65) | Share | +1 11 | Tweet 120 | Like 1.5k

As he strolls across the lawn, it is hard to believe Jasper the dachshund was unable to use his hind legs just two years ago.

Paralysed in an accident, he needed years of physiotherapy and a special trolley to get around.

But scientists conducting a study at Cambridge University have helped him walk again with a pioneering treatment that offers hope for human patients with spinal injuries.

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Today's headlines

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Normalising animal research

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16 December 2012 Last updated at 18:05 [Share](#) [f](#) [t](#) [e](#) [s](#)

Virus rebuilds heart's own pacemaker in animal tests

By James Gallagher
Health and science reporter, BBC News

A new pacemaker has been built inside a heart by converting beating muscle into cells which can organise the organ's rhythm, US researchers report.

The heartbeat is controlled by electrical signals and if these go awry the consequences can be fatal.

Scientists injected a genetically-modified virus into guinea pigs to turn part of their heart into a new, working pacemaker.

The study was published in the journal **Nature Biotechnology**.

A human heart is made up of billions of cells, but researchers say fewer than 10,000 are responsible for controlling the heartbeat.

Age and disease can lead to problems such as the heart pumping too fast or too slow - and it can even stop completely, in what is known as a cardiac arrest.

The solution is an implanted battery-powered pacemaker which will jolt the heart to keep it in line.



Researchers created a new pacemaker inside the heart

Related Stories

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