

Watch Out: Central Insecticide Board (CIB) moves towards alternative tests in a big way!!!

NEWS UPDATE: After a giant leap in cosmetics and a small step with drugs, now the pesticides industry seems to be headed in a direction that could save animals from being put through “obsolete” tests.

The Registration Committee of the Central Insecticide Board has revised its pesticide testing regulations to recognise modern human cell-based alternatives to rabbit tests for the assessment of eye and skin irritation

The move taken by the Board, which comes under the Agriculture Ministry, could spare many animals from pain and death in crude 1940s-era experiments, said a note from Humane Society International/India (HSI India). The decision echoes directives of the Health Ministry over the last several years. In 2013, India outlawed testing cosmetics on animals and in 2015 it said drug companies did not have to repeat pre-clinical toxicity tests on animals in India if the safety profile of the product had been established overseas from labs following Good Laboratory Practices. This was in line with India's OECD commitment regarding mutual acceptance of data.

The latest revised 'Guidance Document on Toxicology for Registration of Chemical Pesticides in India' directs companies to consider new validated alternative methods to animal testing, changing some previously 'unconditional' test requirements to conditional requirements, the note said.

Resource: <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/after-cosmetics-and-drugs-now-pesticides-tone-down-on-obsolete-animal-tests/article10033497.ece>

As a result of this procedural change in the CIB Regulatory Requirement, the *in vivo* tests will be replaced with the modern human cell-based alternatives like *In vitro* Skin Irritation/Corrosion, *In vitro* Eye Irritation, *In vitro* skin Sensitization and *In vitro* Dermal Absorption studies.

JRF has been offering GLP *in vitro* alternate tests to our global clients since 2013. We have been monitoring the regulatory developments and upgrades in the guidelines, by keeping ourselves abreast of the latest developments in this area. Our comprehensive list of services that we offer as alternate tests are as under:

1. **Dermal absorption / penetration studies** using live skin of human and rat origin. We undertake these studies using labelled as well as un-labelled compounds (OECD TG 428)
2. **Skin irritation and corrosion studies** (OECD TG 430, 431, 432, 435 and 439)
3. **Eye irritation** Bovine Corneal Opacity and Permeability Test (OECD 437)
4. **Battery of Skin sensitization** tests based on *adverse outcome pathway endpoints*, such as Direct Peptide Reactivation Assay (DPRA) & Photo-DPRA (OECD TG 442 C), KeratinoSens™ Assay (OECD TG 442 D) and Human Cell Line Activation Test (h-CLAT) (OECD TG 442 E)

Please contact us on <http://bit.ly/jrf90> to learn more about the In vitro Alternative Assays and our experience in these area.

JRF, a pioneer in the CRO business, offers its support services for the pre-clinical services for Agrochemicals, Biopesticides and Specialty Chemical industry by generating preclinical safety data.

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