



3R activities in the Netherlands 2011

Choices, choices, choices...



The Netherlands platform for alternatives on animal use

- **NKCA**
The Netherlands Knowledge Centre on Alternatives to animal use
- **ZonMW**
Funding organisation 3R basic and applied research (including validation and implementation)



Both Dutch governmental organizations



3R activities 2011

- Prioritising scheme and 3R Research agenda
 - fundamental research on cancer and other diseases
 - fundamental research on the development of pharmaceuticals
 - risk assessment of chemical substances
 - quality control of pharmaceuticals and biologicals
- Meeting Montréal
- National Action Plan Laboratory Animals and Alternatives
- Research programme More knowledge, less animals
- Evaluation of 3R research of the past in the Netherlands



Netherlands 3R GOALS

- **More knowledge, less animals (paradigm shift)**
CALL ON: replacement techniques for research into human diseases
 - development innovative 3R alternatives
 - implementation of existing/new 3R alternatives
- **Promotion of**
 - synthesis of evidence (follow up Montréal)
 - publication of negative results of animal experiments
- **Speed up 3R application**
 - Create a favourable research environment
 - Stimulate an integrated chain approach in an international setting





Results of 3 3R funding programmes

- 51 projects finished, mainly replacement and reduction
- 70%: development of 3R-models
- 33%: led to useful application

Successfactor: co-operation fundamental
research and end user

Bottlenecks:

- Funding the next step
- Isolated project leader
- Regulatory acceptance and adoption
- Availability of (cell) material





Activities Dutch Platform 2012

- Funding 2012-2013 (€ 5 mln)
More knowledge, less animals
- 3R Communication and knowledge sharing
- Sharing research priorities in Europe
Let's make some chains!
- **2012 Dream**
setting up together a European 3R Research Agenda



Meeting Montréal

- Overview of international co-ordination initiatives
 - AXLR8
 - ECVAM
 - COACH/seurat
 - ECOPA
 - Netherlands Perspective on 3R's
- Discussion on setting a European 3R Research Agenda

TogetheRRR we can make it possible



WHY a favourable research environment?

Changing attitudes '3R awareness'

1. **gaining insight** into biological processes
2. involve **senior scientists**
3. **participation in social debate**



- Development and adoption of innovative technologies
 - multidisciplinary approach
 - international recognition
- Financing incentives
 - make 3R knowledge become a succesfactor in winning research budgets



WHY an integrated chain approach?

We think...

- Continuous **dialogue** and feedback between all partners
- **Including** validation/acceptance
- **Multidisciplinary** approaches
- Building and **sharing** knowlegde
- Much **closer links** between regulatory authorities and the scientific community, and between government, research organisations, industry and society
- But above all: an **open attitude** and **willingness** to invest jointly

Are essential





Succesfactors chain approach

- Scientists must be up to date with new developments and participate actively
- Early assessment of the potential application of specific 3R alternatives (and sharing them!)
- Closer interaction between research and practice
- Dissemination of data on the usefulness and need for animal experiments (both positive and negative results)
- Stimulation by government in the framework of socially responsible actions





WHY an international approach?



- Fundamental research is **published** in international, peer reviewed journals
- Validation and implementation takes place in the international arena and are **complex, time consuming** processes that require openness by all parties involved
- International acceptance is also complex in that **agreements** are needed on the degree of acceptable risk to patients and consumers



Succesfactors international approach

- International harmonisation and cooperation in priority areas
 - large investments by companies involved
 - lengthy regulatory processes
- Prevention of overlaps and repetition of experiments requires close cooperation in designing safety studies and tests
 - between governments,
 - between government and industry,
 - and between industries
- Use of opportunities in Integrated Testing Strategies depends on databases of good quality data and advanced models, and clear agreements with regard to access



WHY share priorities?

- Innovation takes time, money and commitment of parties involved
- Indecision becomes decision with time
- So we have to make choices



Let's make some chains!



3Q for the discussion

- Would an ECOPA initiative be useful?
- What would be the best next step?

