• 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

YouTube

Understanding Animal Research

ScienceActionNetwork

AnimalResearch.Info

5 live
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?

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 headquartered 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

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 Meide
theguardian.com, Tuesday 20 May 2014 18.30 BST

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.
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

Parkinson's patient on animal research
Openness in practice

University of Leicester animal research centre opens

1 October 2012 Last updated at 20:34

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 defend Science

Italian researchers have rallied and organised flash mobs to argue for the benefits of their research, in response to recent animal rights events.

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

- 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
European Animal Research Association

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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

Why Oxford scientists are experimenting on monkeys

Fergus Walsh
Medical correspondent
More from Fergus

28 January 2014 Last updated at 17:00

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

See inside the Oxford animal laboratory

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Inside the Oxford animal lab

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Understanding ANIMAL RESEARCH
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

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.
Normalising animal research

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.

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