



July 22, 2015

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Dear XXXXXXXX:

We, the undersigned 167 organizations, are writing on behalf of approximately 2.1 million researchers, members, and employees to bring to your attention the important role airline transportation plays in ensuring laboratory animals are available for lifesaving biomedical research and to request you revisit your company's policy regarding the shipment of non-human primates for research purposes. Your company's commitment to transporting laboratory animals is crucial to finding treatments and cures for diseases afflicting millions of people worldwide. We ask that you continue transporting research animals allowing lifesaving research around the world to continue.

The air transportation of animals for medical research is not new. Animals have been transported by air since the early 1930's. Unfortunately, due to perceived pressure from animal rights extremists seeking to end the use of all animals in biomedical research, some airlines claim they no longer accept shipments of animal models for research. We believe this decision is misguided and may have catastrophic consequences to health worldwide for both humans and animals. However, some airlines have taken the opposite approach and have publicly stated their support for facilitating ongoing medical research. Air France, for example, recently reaffirmed its commitment to shipping laboratory animals for lifesaving research by publishing a pro-research statement on its website (see attachment). We respectfully request your airline review its policies regarding shipment of animal models and consider publishing a similar statement.

Scientific and medical research with animals, whether transgenic mice or non-human primates, is essential to the development of medications, treatments, preventions and cures for diseases affecting adults, children and animals around the world. Because of the genetic similarities of animals and people,

animals are invaluable models for human diseases and are integral to the study of currently incurable diseases like Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, HIV/AIDS and malaria, which together affect more than 280 million people worldwide. Research with animals is currently underway for the development of new drugs to cure or treat such diseases as cancer, cystic fibrosis, tuberculosis, and cardiovascular disease to name a few.

The essential role of animals in lifesaving research is an indisputable fact. Almost every major medical advance in the last century was made possible by carefully regulated, humane animal research. For example, the medicines developed and in use today include vaccines against life-threatening illnesses such as typhus, yellow fever and polio. These vaccines have essentially eradicated these diseases in the US and Western Europe and provide the tools for eradicating them elsewhere in the world. But there is much research yet to be done and all of it will depend in some way on animals.

Be assured that animal research and testing for the development of new medicines are not only required in many cases by the Food and Drug Administration in the United States, but are also strictly regulated by governing authorities in the US, the EU and other countries. Responsible research with animals is a moral and ethical societal obligation to ensure protection of humans and animals from unknown and unacceptable health risks.

Access to safe, fast and reliable modes of transportation for these animals is essential to the mission of advancing global medical and scientific progress. By carrying these animals, your company plays a significant role in the quest to end human suffering and premature death, which threaten so much of the world's population.

Moreover, air transportation of animals not only promotes good research; it also promotes good animal welfare. The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has stated, "In today's modern world, carriage of live animals by air is considered the most humane and expedient method of transportation over long distances." IATA ensures that both safety and animal welfare are addressed in all regulatory issues pertaining to transportation of live animals by air.

Thousands of research programs at institutions worldwide are dependent on the shipment of laboratory animals. People at public and private universities, medical and veterinary schools, teaching hospitals, voluntary health agencies, and professional societies are, of course, customers of your airline. These organizations along with biotechnology companies, pharmaceutical companies and contract research organizations spend billions of dollars with the airline industry each year on the shipment of laboratory samples, and medicines and on passenger tickets.

We ask you to continue conducting your business with the greater good in mind, rather than capitulating to the opinions of a few vocal animal rights extremists who are not representative of the public at large. A decision to ship research animals doesn't just promote good science, but also

promotes a healthy relationship between your airline and all of us, the customers, who rely on the benefits of medical research.

We look forward to your response, and would also like to meet with you or your representative to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,

Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University

Allied Trade Association

American Academy of Clinical Toxicology

American Academy of Neurology

American Association for Corporate and Public Practice Veterinarians

American Association for Laboratory Animal Science

American Association of Anatomists

American Brain Coalition

American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine

American College of Neuropsychopharmacology

American Neurological Association

American Physiological Society

American Psychological Association

American Society for Microbiology

American Society for Nutrition

American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics

American Society of Laboratory Animal Practitioners

American Surgical Association

Americans for Medical Progress

Animal Health Institute

Anxiety and Depression Association of America

Association for Psychological Science

Association of American Medical Colleges

Association of American Universities

Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges

Association of Independent Research Institutes

Association of Primate Veterinarians

Association of Public and Land-grant Universities

Bar Ilan University

Baylor College of Medicine

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Brigham and Women's Hospital

Bioculture Group

Bio-Serv

California Biomedical Research Association

California National Primate Research Center

California Society for Biomedical Research

Canadians for Health Research

Caribbean Primate Research Center

Cedars-Sinai Health System

Charles River

College on Problems of Drug Dependence

Colorado State University

Columbia University Medical Center

Comparative Biosciences, Inc.
Cornell University, Ithaca
Council on Governmental Relations
Covance, Inc.
Creighton University
Duke University
Duke University Medical Center
Emory University
Environmental Mutagenesis and Genomics Society
European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations
International Council for Laboratory Animal Science
International Essential Tremor Foundation
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
Federation of European Laboratory Animal Science Associations
Florida State University
Foundation for Biomedical Research
GlaxoSmithKline
Groupe Interprofessionnel de Réflexion et de Communication sur la Recherche
Harlan Laboratories
Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Illinois State University
Indiana University
Inter-University Forum for Medical Sciences in Israel
Intracranial Hypertension Research Foundation

Intuitive Biosciences

John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawaii

Laboratory Animal Breeders Association

Laboratory Animal Management Association

Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center—New Orleans

Loyola University Chicago Health Sciences Division

Marshall BioResources

Massachusetts General Hospital

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Massachusetts Society for Medical Research

MdDS Balance Disorder Foundation

Michigan State University

Mid-Continent Association for Agriculture, Biomedical Research and Education

Montana State University

National Alliance on Mental Illness

National Association for Biomedical Research

National Multiple Sclerosis Society

Nationwide Children's Hospital

New England Primate Research Center

New Jersey Association for Biomedical Research

New York Medical College

New York University

North Carolina Association for Biomedical Research

Northwest Association for Biomedical Research

NYU Langone Medical Center

Oklahoma State University Center for Veterinary Health Sciences

Oregon National Primate Research Center

Ohio Scientific Education & Research Association

Pennsylvania Society for Biomedical Research

Research!America

Rush University Medical Center

Safety Pharmacology Society

Saint Louis University

Salk Institute for Biological Studies

Sanofi

Scientist Center for Animal Welfare

Schizophrenia and Related Disorders Alliance of America

SNBL USA, Ltd.

Society for Neuroscience

Society of Toxicology

Society of Toxicologic Pathology

Southwest Association for Education in Biomedical Research

Southwest National Primate Research Center

St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center – Phoenix, Arizona

Stanford University

States United for Biomedical Research

Taconic

Tel Aviv University

Teratology Society

The American Association of Immunologists

The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry

The Johns Hopkins University

The Ohio State University

The Rockefeller University

The University of Arizona

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Technion – Israel Institute of Technology

Texas Biomedical Research Institute

Texas Society for Biomedical Research

Tulane National Primate Research Center

Tulane University

University of Alabama at Birmingham

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

University of California, San Francisco

University of California, Davis

University of Colorado, Denver

University of Florida

University of Haifa

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

University of Kentucky

University of Maine

University of Maryland, College Park

University of Michigan

University of Minnesota

University of Mississippi Medical Center

University of Nebraska Medical Center

University of Nevada, Reno

University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

University of Pennsylvania

University of Pittsburgh Schools of the Health Sciences

University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

University of Toledo

University of Utah

University of Washington

University of Wisconsin – Madison

Virginia Commonwealth University

Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Washington Animal Research Network

Washington National Primate Research Center

Washington University

Weill Medical College, Cornell University

Weizmann Institute of Science

Wisconsin National Primate Research Center

Yale University

Yerkes National Primate Research Center

Attachment

Attachment



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Statement

Air France would like to state that nothing allows the airline to decide on the merits of the use of animals in biomedical research. However, it is important and scientifically justified, such as, for example, testing new medical products on the market which need to be proven safe for humans, in line with international regulations. Animals are also used in basic research for new vaccines and in studies of the safety of pharmaceutical products.

Air France Cargo refuses to transport laboratory animals destined for any use other than medical.

In addition, Air France Cargo ensures that all biomedical research involving the use of animals in laboratories with which the airline works is fully in line with current legislation and the regulations drawn up by scientific organizations specializing in animal welfare.

Air France Cargo refuses transportation if the testing protocols do not conform to these regulations and visits all customers to make sure this is the case. Air France Cargo also monitors the supplier, who must comply with the breeding rules in force.

More generally, Air France scrupulously respects and complies with standards issued by the International Air Transport Association (*IATA*), the European Union, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).