



October 31, 2022

Kumble R. Subbaswamy  
Chancellor  
University of Massachusetts–Amherst

Dear Chancellor Subbaswamy:

Marmoset monkeys don't go through menopause but they're being used in cruel menopause experiments at the University of Massachusetts–Amherst? Maybe I'm just having a hot flash, but this cruel waste really makes my blood boil.

My friends at PETA tell me that experimenters zip-tie these tiny monkeys into restraining devices, drill into their skulls, cut open their necks, thread electrodes all the way from their heads down to their abdomens, and then try to simulate hot flashes by taping hand warmers to their bodies. How does this pass for serious science? And it has cost taxpayers \$4.4 million. Seriously? This all sounds like a horror film cooked up during a night sweat.

Menopause is not a disease. It's a natural phase of life, and frankly, wouldn't it be better if men had to experience the symptoms? Just imagine—monkeys would be spared the useless pain and torture, and creating a whole new population of empathetic men would make the world a much better place. You're welcome for the free advice! And look, I just saved you 4 mill!

But I get it. Menopause is not for the weak. Believe me, I've been through it and I know. But it's not for monkeys, either. These experiments could be done in a kinder, more human-relevant way by studying women who actually experience menopause. Just give me a call, and we can talk about it.

Please end these awful experiments, use the resources on effective non-animal research methods, and release the marmosets to a reputable sanctuary. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A stylized, cursive signature of Elvira, written in black ink.

Cassandra Peterson, aka "Elvira"

