| PETA'S REQUESTS TO THE NIH | VS | NIH WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS |
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| • Educate and train researchers and regulators in the benefits of and how to use non-animal testing approaches<br>• Offer Continuing Education Training Grants with the explicit purpose of establishing educational programs to train researchers on available non-animal methodologies<br>• Provide opportunities to investigators with knowledge or access gaps | | • Invest in training across the research to implementation pipeline<br>• Promote awareness and understanding of NAMs through publicly available educational course modules and workshops<br>• Incentivize cross-training opportunities |
| • Make funding for non-animal research more readily available<br>• Redirect funds from animal studies to the use and development of reliable, non-animal methods | | • Create funding mechanisms for technology developers to both receive and advance training in different methods and strategies for reliable technology deployment<br>• Create novel funding opportunities such as cross-disciplinary challenge programs or prize competitions.<br>• Develop funding opportunities to support multi-disciplinary teams, considering potential scientific, technological, and engineering needs; regulatory or policy requirements; ethical considerations; and patient/public adoption<br>• Support incentives for multi-laboratory coordination, especially mechanisms for supporting expertise across the lifecycle of development and use |
| • Offer Program Project Grants or Center Grants (P01/P30/P50) to investigators interested in establishing centers for non-animal methods at their institutions<br>• Use the NIH Common Fund to establish multiple centers for non-animal methods across the U.S.<br>• Establish Core Facilities at the NIH IRP that will provide investigators with access to resources and experts in the use of non-animal methods | | • Establish dedicated and centralized core facilities as national or regional resources to develop and run NAM assays to reduce costs, leverage scale, and train<br>• Create accessible and reliable sources and repositories for disseminating validated NAMs.<br>• Create mechanisms for disseminating NAMs resources, technologies, and expertise efficiently, equitably, and reliably across researchers and institutions<br>• Invest in infrastructure to support institutions in keeping pace with the rapid pace of NAMs |
| • Conduct systematic reviews of the efficacy of animal use to identify additional areas in which non-animal methods are available or the use of animals has failed to protect human or environmental health and can, therefore, be ended | | • Support research comparing and benchmarking relevant animal, NAMs and human models to validate translational potential, reduce reliance on singular methods, reduce costs, and identify integration frameworks and strengths and weaknesses in model approach<br>• Support cost effective analyses of proposed technologies with existing methods, including animal studies, looking at time, scalability, and resource efficiency |
| • NIH Center for Scientific Review must ensure a diversity of expertise within its Study Sections. Presently, Study Sections appear to be dominated by individuals with expertise only in animal-based methods. NIH must ensure that the at least half of the membership of each Study Section is made up of scientists whose primary expertise is in safe and effective human-based practices | | • Promote training for grant reviewers to better understand how to evaluate the use of NAMs in fundamental and applied research grants<br>• Foster equitable development and use of NAMs for research and public benefit... Characterize individual differences, method biases, etc. to understand, minimize, and correct for variability and biases |
| • Work with other world leaders to harmonize and promote international acceptance of non-animal testing methods for regulatory toxicity testing requirements | | • Identify opportunities to build upon existing efforts both nationally and internationally to link resources and identify a clear source of coordination for NAMs resources |
| • The NIH should mandate that grantees adhere to high quality reporting standards, several of which have been recommended in the literature | | • Define expectations for NAM studies to follow established reporting guidelines for funders and publishers regarding NAMs development and use |
| • It is imperative that with increased funding for non-animal methods comes a mandate of rigorous practices, reporting, and data sharing | | • Identify or establish a designated repository for NAM data sharing, consistent with FAIR principles, privacy protections, and security practices, with sufficient metadata requirements to promote equitable reuse of high quality NAMs data |