



September 17, 2026

The Honorable Emil Michael
Under Secretary of War for Research and Engineering

Dear Secretary Michael:

Thank you in advance for your time. I'm writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals—PETA has more than 10.4 million members and supporters around the world. **Based on the information presented below and enclosed, we respectfully ask you to end the U.S. Department of War's expenditure of millions of American tax dollars for animal experiments currently conducted in Canada.**

Americans should not have to pay for cruel and wasteful animal experiments conducted in Canada. As described in the enclosed document, the Department of War is spending more than \$21.5 million on animal experiments currently conducted at Canadian institutions, including:

- Mice subjected to induced strangulation, oxygen deprivation, and brain-injury in purported attempts to simulate "intimate partner violence" in humans at the University of British Columbia (UBC).
- Pigs forced to endure spinal cord injuries, paralysis, invasive implants, and prolonged electrical stimulation at UBC.
- Pigs put through blood-transfusions at UBC.
- Rats' auditory nerve and vision damaged at McGill University.
- Mice and rats made to undergo severe spinal cord injuries and circulatory-restriction at the University of Calgary.

President Trump's administration has emphasized putting America first, strengthening accountability for federal spending, and ensuring that taxpayer dollars advance American interests. These principles should extend to federally-funded animal experimentation in Canada.

You can contact me by e-mail at MaggieW@peta.org. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter, and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Dr. Maggie Wisniewska
Science Policy Advisor - International Laboratory Methods

Enclosure: U.S. Taxpayer-Funded Animal Tests Conducted in Canada

PEOPLE FOR
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OF ANIMALS

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- PETA France
- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA Switzerland
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (U.K.)

U.S. Taxpayer-Funded Animal Tests Conducted in Canada

Location	Sunnybrook Research Institute, Canada
Funder	Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs
Dates	August 1, 2024 - July 31, 2027
Award Number / Proposal Number	HT9425-24-1-0697 / RH230020
Obligated Amount	\$824,505   
Summary	Experimenter Alain Dabdoub subjects rats to auditory neuropathy to test MRI-guided focused ultrasound (FUS) as a method for delivering gene therapy to the inner ear. He uses focused ultrasound to temporarily open the blood–labyrinth barrier, allowing viral vectors carrying neurogenic genes to enter the animals' cochlea and act on inner ear cells, after which he monitors them for changes in auditory function and neuronal structure and the animals are likely killed.

Location	McGill University, Canada
Funder	Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs
Dates	September 30, 2019 - September 29, 2026
Award Number / Proposal Number	W81XWH-19-1-0853 / VR180080
Obligated Amount	\$5,863,701   
Summary	Experimenter Leonard Levin subjects rats to traumatic optic nerve injury, leading to degeneration of retinal ganglion cells and vision loss. He then tests experimental drugs on the animals, who undergo imaging to track neurodegeneration and recovery.

Location	University of British Columbia, Canada
Funder	Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs
Dates	September 1, 2025 - August 31, 2029
Award Number / Proposal Number	HT9425-25-1-0963 / TP240121
Obligated Amount	\$5,738,391   
Summary	Experimenter Cheryl Wellington deliberately inflicts injuries on hundreds of mice to study intimate partner violence-related brain injury. Experimenters will create and validate a new mouse model of nonfatal strangulation by compressing animals' neck blood vessels and airways with an adjustable pressure device, restricting blood flow and oxygen before subjecting them to extensive physiological monitoring, blood collection, behavioral testing, and ultimately “euthanasia” for tissue analysis. Some mice will experience both head impacts and induced strangulation.

Location	University of British Columbia, Canada
Funder	Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs
Dates	September 30, 2023 – September 29, 2026
Award Number / Proposal Number	HT9425-23-1-0777 / SC220107
Obligated Amount	\$1,731,421   
Summary	Experimenter Babak Shadgan subjects Yucatan miniature pigs to spinal cord contusion and compression injuries, and he catheterizes their spinal cords to test an optical near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) sensor to monitor tissue perfusion and oxygenation. Pigs then undergo hemodynamic manipulation, including drug-induced blood pressure control and measurement of metabolic markers, after which they are killed.

Location	University of British Columbia, Canada
Funder	Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs
Dates	September 30, 2024 - September 29, 2027
Award Number / Proposal Number	HT9425-24-1-0912 / SC230114
Obligated Amount	\$1,156,654   
Summary	Experimenter Brian Kwon damages Yucatan mini-pigs' thoracic spinal cords to induce paralysis and severe bladder dysfunction and to test a sacral neuromodulation system for bladder control. He then implants electrical generators in their flanks, electrodes in their sacral nerve roots, and pressure sensors inside their bladders. The animals are forced to endure 13 weeks of repeated electrical stimulation to manipulate their urination reflexes.

Location	University of Calgary
Funder	Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs
Dates	September 1, 2025 - August 31, 2029
Award Number / Proposal Number	HT9425-23-1-0812 / MS220094
Obligated Amount	\$207,200   
Summary	Experimenter Carlos Camara-Lemarroy subjects mice to repeated episodes of restricted blood flow over a 14-day period. In some experiments, healthy mice with no pre-existing neurological injury undergo this repeatedly before their brains and spinal cords are collected for further experiments.

Location	University of British Columbia, Canada
Funder	Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs
Dates	September 30, 2021 - September 29, 2026
Award Number / Proposal Number	W81XWH-21-2-0042 / PR201092
Obligated Amount	\$4,269,089   
Summary	Experimenter Stephen Withers uses pigs to test a whole blood conversion unit (WBCU) purportedly designed to transform A or B type blood into universal O type using enzymes derived from the human gut microbiome. After engineering enzymatic cocktails that strip antigens from red blood cells, he subjects animals to various tests, which may involve transfusing modified blood into pigs and monitoring them for adverse reactions.

Location	University of British Columbia, Canada
Funder	Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs
Dates	September 30, 2022 - September 29, 2026
Award Number / Proposal Number	W81XWH-22-1-0929 / SC210078
Obligated Amount	\$1,743,216   
Summary	Experimenter Andrei Krassioukov uses 140 Wistar rats to test the efficacy of transcutaneous stimulation (TCS) for restoring autonomic functions—such as cardiovascular, bladder, and bowel control—after spinal cord injury (SCI). He subjects the animals to severe thoracic contusion injuries, after which the rats undergo TCS or sham stimulation with physiological monitoring.

Current TOTAL: \$ 21,534,177

