

Animals In Research - Our Policy

Consumer Goods Research:

In the past, scientific and legal requirements meant that safeguarding consumers' health invariably involved the use of animal tests. Governments tell us that it is currently not possible to avoid all animal use and maintain the same levels of health protection. At the same time, some of our consumers tell us they want to see more progress on use of alternatives. We therefore work with interested partners to develop alternatives that offer the same level of health protection as current animal-based tests and we will help promote their acceptance. We are also working with governments around the world to challenge remaining legal requirements to test on animals and to find other options wherever possible. In this way we will work to limit and ultimately eliminate animal testing for chemicals. In the meantime, we do not test our products on animals unless forced to do so by law.

Health Care Research:

Our health care business works every day to improve people's lives by developing innovative medicines targeted against important therapeutic areas. Current scientific knowledge and regulatory standards require that we use animals in the process of developing these products, both to safeguard humans and to direct the basic research process prior to testing in people. It is our policy to use the minimum number of animals necessary for this work and to progress toward the goals of reduction, refinement and replacement of animal use on an ongoing basis.