

## **University of Rochester's Position Statement on Animal Research**

The University of Rochester supports the responsible use and humane care and treatment of laboratory animals in research and education. We subscribe to the belief that only as many animals as are necessary should be used to solve a particular problem; that any pain or distress should be minimized; and that alternatives to animal research should be developed and employed, wherever feasible.

The University of Rochester places a high priority on “The Three R’s” – reduction, replacement, and refinement, and is committed to supporting the development of techniques that:

- Reduce the number of animals used
- Replace animals with other models whenever possible
- Refine procedures to ensure the best possible care and comfort

The University of Rochester promotes support for a fourth “R” – responsibility, and urges scientists to take responsibility for the ethical involvement of animals in research that complies with or exceeds all applicable laws and regulations.

While it is conceivable that a time will come when animal research will not be necessary, there is, at present, no complete alternative to animal research. Research with lab animals is now, and for the foreseeable future, essential to the pursuit of medical and scientific discovery that advances human and animal health.