Nurses Movement for Responsible Medicine

Newsletter

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Nurses Movement for Responsible Medicine (NMRM) was founded in October 2007 by Cynthia O'Neill, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V. to provide nurses with a channel through which they could express their concerns in relation to the high number of adverse drug reactions suffered by so many of their patients.

The Objective of NMRM
is the Immediate and
Unconditional Abolition
Of All Animal Experiments
On Medical
and
Scientific Grounds

"Every year hundreds and thousands of Europeans succumb prematurely to cancer and dementia, mainly because of chemicals found to be safe in animals."

Dr Professor Claude Reiss

For 30 years Research Director of the Molecular Genetics Centre of the French National Centre for Scientific Research.

Pollution of the Planet

"Nowadays the media talk a lot about pollution of the planet. But that's only the tip of the iceberg. Why don't they include the most dangerous form of pollution – medical drugs? Anti-hypertension drugs cause enduring damage and allergic reactions, not found in laboratory animals.

The pharmaceutical industry controls governments by their contributions to their political campaigns... Vivisection is a legal system which allows the pharmaceutical companies to market harmful products... It is an unscientific practice and should be outlawed, but this is prevented by financial interests, largely Swiss banks. Banks and the pharmaceutical industry dominate Switzerland...

Apart from the differences between the various species, individuals vary within the same species... Patients are the victims of pollution by the pharmaceutical laboratories. Drugs produce almost as many victims as pesticides, which are used without control, causing food pollution. No wonder there is increasing disease throughout the world. We are all victims of general pollution. We are all at the mercy of politicians and the pharmaceutical industry..."

Louis Bon De Brouwer, MD, noted researcher and medical author, France

NB: Dr Louis Bon De Brouwer mentions Switzerland but what he says applies to all countries worldwide.

"The abolition of vivisection must be total... Animals are completely different from humans and no animal species can serve as an experimental model for man. Each animal has a genetic code of its own, which is a fixed datum and characteristically unique in each species. For this reason, a method that is based on the similarity between the species, while there are differences, different genetic codes, can only lead medical science into error. The mouse, the dog, the monkey, even when they are placed into the same environment, don't contract the same maladies. There simply can be no medical progress based on animal tests...

The general belief in their usefulness is the result of the brainwash conducted on public opinion for a long time..."

Arie Brecher, MD, head paediatrician in Holon, Israel 1990

Drugs Can Kill

Adverse drug reactions are now acknowledged to rank as one of the principal causes of death in the UK, USA and Europe.

It's not unusual for drug companies to be sued in the US. GlaxoSmithKline is one example. There are published court cases, both old and new, against drugs companies, but the most publicised is one that hit the headlines in 2007. The case was brought, and won, by a man called Bod Bowen.

The doctor of diabetic Bob Bowen prescribed for him a licensed drug called Avandia, which had devastating effects. After a month, Bob's feet, legs and thighs suddenly swelled to twice their normal size and he was diagnosed with heart failure. His doctor told him to keep taking the Avandia. Two months later, he passed out. Bob spent 10 days in hospital and was diagnosed with heart valve damage, a heart blockage, fluid on the lungs and kidney failure. Neither Bob nor any of his family has a history of heart problems.

"It is important to understand that it is not only qualified doctors and lawyers who are, in ever-greater numbers, taking on board the responsibility of abolishing vivisection, on scientific grounds: this responsibility is also being increasingly accepted by society at large. We must always remember the fact that sections of the public are capable of recognising and understanding the flaws and dangers of such research. They therefore have as much right, and indeed duty, to be involved in this campaign as have the professionals. We all have a share in the responsibility – though our detractors would have us believe that the lay-person hasn't the wit or the knowledge to understand what is going on!"

Extract from Joy Palmer's Introduction to DLRM's Fourth International Scientific Congress, Vancouver 1997 (for complete introduction speech, see Doctors and Lawyers for Responsible Medicine via our links page)

If one can't apply the result of a test on a rat to a mouse, what hope is there of applying it to a human?

Tests for the potential to cause cancer usually use rats or mice. In one study almost half of the substances causing cancer in mice didn't cause it in rats, and vice versa. If one can't apply the result of a test on a rat to a mouse, what hope is there of applying it to a human? In another study, rats and mice were exposed to 26 substances known to cause human cancer. Fewer than half caused cancer in either rats or mice, and the author concluded that we'd be better off tossing a coin.

Of course, giving high doses of 3 years to a few hundred genetically similar and healthy rodents is totally different from the situation in people, who will be exposed to very low doses for up to 100 years, will be genetically diverse and will be consuming a cocktail of chemicals.

Some American scientists used animal test results to calculate the possible risk of bladder cancer due to the sweetener Saccharin. They considered all the uncertainties involved in extrapolating results from animals to humans. Their answer was that the number of people developing bladder cancer from Saccharin could be as low as ONE person or as high as 1,444,000 people.

To believe that results obtained from animal testing can be extrapolated to humans is, at best, wishful thinking and, at worst, scientific fraud. And in many cases this practice is highly dangerous, whilst in others it can deprive the patient of effective treatment."

Dr David Johnson Doctors and Lawyers for Responsible Medicine (DLRM) From: Second International Scientific Congress of Doctors in Britain against Animal Experiments (DBAE)

"Animal models are *not* predictive for humans. This fundamental principle holds true whether one is using living animals, animal cells or animal DNA. Indeed, since almost all disease processes begin at the cellular level it makes perfect sense to study human cells and human DNA if we want to better understand human cell function and find cures for human disease." ...the use of human tissue obtained during operations to remove tumours or during other brain surgery, as well as autopsy studies, resulted in the only real progress for understanding the human brain. I am about to test them on human lymphocytes and other human cell lines."

Professor Claude Reiss DLRM 'Newsletter number 10