



Statement about Animal Experiments

hDMT aims to support the Netherlands in her aim to be world leading by 2025 in developing and providing animal free alternatives for understanding human disease, developing effective drugs for treating patients and identifying substances that represent a risk to human health.

hDMT does not think that all animal experiments can completely be replaced within the distant future. Also, we believe that wide acceptance of the proposed alternatives based on human cell models in research and development will need proof that they are at least as good as *animal models*.

Many drugs ($\pm 85\%$) fail in human clinical trials because of lack of effectivity: drugs that work well in animals may not work in humans. Also, drugs and compounds used in our daily life products, which appear safe in animals may not be safe for humans. This is because our organs and immune system are physiologically very different to animal organs. Therefore making human organ models is of high priority and is already moving rapidly towards success. Challenging areas are pharmacokinetics, bio-distribution, systemic toxicity, dose and drug half-life in the body.

In summary, hDMT actively supports the development of animal alternatives, not driven by altruism but driven by the need to find better models based on human cells that better predict which drugs and compounds are safe for human exposure, and what the drug outcomes and disease mechanisms in patients are.

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