PCRM
PHYSICIANS COMMITTEE FOR RESPONSIBLE MEDICINE
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September 20, 2001

Executive Director
Tokyon Fujimi Bldg
11-2 Fujimi 1 Chome
Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102-8172, Japan

Dear Executive Director:

This letter is written on behalf of the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM) and Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC). PCRM is a health advocacy non-profit organization that promotes preventive medicine and higher standards for ethics and effectiveness in research. It is comprised of 5,000 physicians and more than 100,000 laypersons. SHAC is an animal protection non-profit organization campaigning to close the Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) facility because of its documented abuses to animals and inappropriate animal experimentation. These two organizations would like to share with you two scientific critiques of animal experiments conducted at HLS. These scientific reviews, written by PCRM physicians, show what we believe to be the irrelevance and inappropriateness of some of the studies done at HLS.

May I ask you to please read the enclosed studies? As a company that is striving to bring products to the market that may improve or enhance people's lives, we ask you to make an honest assessment as to the extent that HLS has served you, their customer, and the public fairly and safely when given a contract to test various products, chemicals, and life altering drugs.

Although animal tests are routinely used to test compounds for toxicity or carcinogenicity, or alternatively, for their possible therapeutic effect, these tests are poor indicators for safety and effectiveness in humans. Animal studies cannot be reliably used to understand human pharmacokinetics because of the myriad anatomical, physiological, and pathological differences between humans and other animals. For instance, the significantly shorter gestational periods of rodents, compared to humans, contribute to the marked differences in developmental toxicity of drugs that often occur between test animals and humans. On the other hand, epidemiological data provide much more reliable risk assessments and can be applied directly to human populations.

Extrapolating carcinogenicity data generated by animal studies to humans is especially problematic. Not only are humans and other species prone to developing different cancers, most human cancers behave differently from artificially produced animal models. Moreover, rodents in carcinogenicity tests sometimes develop cancer from chemicals given in extremely high doses that are harmless to humans at normal exposure levels because these doses cause artificial tissue irritation and cell

proliferation, which result in cancer. In other instances, potentially useful drugs may be overlooked because of ineffectiveness or harmful effects in animals used in testing. For these and other reasons outlined in the enclosed critiques, reliance on nonhuman animals to provide toxicity and carcinogenicity data for human risk assessment constitutes a faulty scientific method.

Because we realize your company is committed to public safety and sound science, we hope you will take the time to contact PCRM or SHAC with any questions or concerns you may have. Below you will find contact information for SHAC. We extend a sincere hope to hear from your company soon.

Sincerely,

Neal D. Barnard, M.D.
President
PCRM

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