

WHY GO SEVERE PAIN & DISTRESS FREE?

SCIENCE, ANIMAL WELFARE, AND PUBLIC PERCEPTION

Pain and distress—especially when severe—not only compromises the welfare of animals used in research, but can also be detrimental to the quality of science produced, which can ultimately undermine human health advances.

Uncontrolled, undetected, and unalleviated pain, physical distress, or psychological distress result in alterations in physiologic and behavioral states, and confound the outcome of scientific research (National Research Council, 1992).¹ The laws, regulations, and guidelines governing the conduct of animal research also emphasize the need to minimize pain and distress.



Students, parents, faculty, alumni, and others who contribute financially to your university want their school to have high standards of animal welfare.

Make those associated with your institution proud of your efforts to limit the suffering of research animals. More than 45 schools in the United States have committed to not allowing severe pain and distress in their animal research program. Yours can be the next school added to the list!



Public opposition to animal research increases as the level of pain and distress experienced by the animals increases.

A public survey conducted for The HSUS² by an independent polling firm found that Americans' opposition to animal research rises dramatically as the level of pain and distress increases from minor (33%) to moderate (60%) to severe (75%).



1. National Research Council (1992) *Recognition and Alleviation of Pain and Distress in Laboratory Animals*. Washington DC: National Academies Press.
2. The poll conducted by The HSUS in 2001 is at: http://www.hsus.org/animals_in_research/pain_distress/opinion_poll_on_pain_and_distress_in_research.html