

Research Using Animals - Policy Statement

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SECTION A: POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The Epilepsy Society is committed to achieving high standards of service and ethics in all of its practices. This policy sets out our position on the use of animals in research.

2. OUR VISION AND VALUES

- 2.1 Epilepsy Society's vision is a world where epilepsy is irrelevant and people with epilepsy lead the lives they want to lead. The Society's mission is to transform the lives of people with epilepsy through world-leading research, advocacy and care.
- 2.2 The Society's values define it as an organisation and gives it a clear direction about how it does what it does:
- Caring
 - Accountable
 - Improving
 - Respectful
 - Open
- 2.3 The Society at all times puts the person with epilepsy at the heart of everything it does.

3. POLICY SCOPE

- 3.1. This policy and the associated procedures apply to all employees, volunteers, bank and agency workers, self-employed contractors, trustees and any person who undertakes work physically at the Chalfont site, whatever their status/affiliation.

4. STATEMENT

- a. The Epilepsy Society does not undertake or directly commission or fund research involving animals.
- b. We recognise that research on animals is a subject on which people have strong views.
- c. We are also aware that in some instances, to allow the advancement and understanding of health and disease and the development of new treatments, there is not yet any viable alternative to animal research.
- d. Where there is no alternative available, we support the [NC3Rs guidelines](#) (replacement, reduction and refinement) as basic principles of humane animal research.
- e. The Epilepsy Society expects that any research involving animals undertaken as part of collaborative work with and by external partners is conducted in accordance with all licensing requirements and recognised ethical standards.