

## Concordat on Openness

LASA has signed the Concordat on Openness on Animal Research to signal the Association's support for the principles of openness and transparency. We encourage our members to consider how they can be more open about their work and take opportunities to engage with the public about the role of animals in science. Our policy on the use of animals in research aligns with our organisational aims and is endorsed by LASA members.

### Statement

Scientific research that uses laboratory animals contributes to our understanding of how human and animal bodies function in health and disease. Used alongside other scientific methods studying animals leads to knowledge that help us better understand and protect people, animals and our environment.

LASA's members do not all conduct research on animals, but they agree in principle that the use of animals in science is presently a necessity, and that the sector should strive to improve conditions for the animals wherever possible, through research that fully considers the 3Rs.

The use of animals in science is not taken lightly, and it is important that we continually revise our understanding and practice of the ways that we use and care for laboratory animals. LASA members work together to share good research practices and to improve animal care.

We recognise that not everybody is comfortable with the use of animals in scientific research, but also understand the importance of well-designed and well-conducted animal research to society. We strive to develop, share and adopt practices that will improve conditions for laboratory animals, reduce suffering and find alternatives to their use.

### Concordat Commitments:

- Commitment 1: We will be clear about when, how and why we use animals in research
- Commitment 2: We will enhance our communications with the media and the public about our research using animals
- Commitment 3: We will be proactive in providing opportunities for the public to find out about research using animals
- Commitment 4: We will report on progress annually and share our experiences