

**NATIONAL STRATEGIES FOR PRIMATE USE IN BIOSCIENCE – DOES THE UK NEED ONE?**

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One of the issues considered in the Report on the Use of Non-Human Primates in Research produced in 2006 by a working group chaired by Sir David Wetherall, on behalf of the Academy of Medical Sciences, the Medical Research Council, The Royal Society and the Wellcome Trust, was the promotion of a strategic and integrated approach to UK non-human primate research. The report stated that, if non-human primate research is considered to be important, the UK must address how it can be supported in terms of supply, methods and cost effectiveness. It urged all the stakeholders involved to work together in formulating a national strategic plan for non-human primate research, to address issues of supply and demand in the short and longer term and to include a re-evaluation of the organisation of non-human primate research facilities. As yet, a strategy has not been defined, agreed or implemented. In the United States, the Institute for Laboratory Animal Research of the National Academies is developing an international plan for non-human primate resources in research. This presentation will review the current state of play of UK or European strategies and discuss the reasons why such a strategy is important, the issues it needs to consider and the wider implications of the global use of non-human primates.

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