

Their life is in your hands : carry the humane research donor card / Animal Aid.

Contributors

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THEIR LIFE IS IN YOUR HANDS

CARRY THE HUMANE RESEARCH DONOR CARD



HUMANE RESEARCH DONOR CARD

I would like to spare animals suffering in scientific and medical research after my death. Let your relatives know your wishes and keep this card with you at all times.

"I have always strongly supported the view, on both scientific and humane grounds, that the use of human tissue for research is preferable to the use of animals. I therefore whole heartedly welcome your introduction of the 'The Humane Research Donor Card' and hope it will be successful in obtaining an adequate flow of human tissue for research".

Professor Fox, University of Manchester, Medical School.

SAVE PEOPLE, SAVE ANIMALS - CARRY THE HUMANE RESEARCH DONOR CARD

The *Humane Research Donor Card (HRDC)* is designed to increase the amount of human tissue available for research and testing, and thereby reduce the number of animals used. Lack of availability is the reason usually cited for its comparative neglect. By employing human tissues in test-tube experiments, scientists can avoid the misleading results that often arise when animals are used. The scheme is supported by many scientists and has been welcomed by the *Medical Research Council*.

- Both healthy and diseased tissues are valuable for researchers because comparisons between the two can yield new insights into many illnesses such as cancer, stroke, heart disease, arthritis and neurological disease.
- Human tissues could not only replace animals killed simply to provide parts of their bodies for research, but also many *live* animal experiments because human tissues remain viable for some time after death.
- The *HRDC* does not preclude people from also becoming donors for organ transplantation and they can carry both types of card.
- Some people already donate their bodies for education and research so university medical schools and local hospitals should be able to advise would-be donors and families of the procedures they use in the event of a person's death.
- As with any donor card, holders can only express their *willingness* to leave tissues. At present, human

material is much more likely to actually be used where hospitals are alert to the needs of local researchers or where tissue storage banks have been established.

- The *HRDC* scheme will achieve its full potential when there are further tissue banks, together with well-informed hospital authorities holding a register of intended donors, thereby reducing the chance of tissues going to waste. Intended donors should therefore not only discuss the issue with their families but inform the local hospital and/or nearby university medical school of their wishes.
- Supporters can help by arranging for the *HRDC* to be displayed as widely as possible.

"I still believe strongly that wherever possible human tissue is available for research, this should be used preferentially to the use of animals, and would certainly recommend your new initiative of the *Humane Research Donor Card*".

Paul Townsend, Frenchay Hospital, Bristol

"No laboratory animal will ever be a completely satisfactory substitute for the human system and the time will come when we shall stop wasting the enormously valuable enzymes and organelles of the dead and instead put these to use to understand the living human being better".

Professor Corwin Hansch, drug researcher

I wish to become a member of *Animal Aid* and enclose a cheque for £ _____
(£7 waged, £5 unwaged, £4 youth (under 18), £100 life membership).

I enclose a donation of £ _____ in support of your campaign.

Please send me a Donor Card and more details of the scheme.

Please send me more leaflets. (£1.50 per 100, £6 per 500).

Poster and dispenser also available

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Age (if under 18) _____



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Strictly peaceful campaigning.