

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Committee on the Use of Live Animals in Teaching and Research

To: Teachers in charge of CULATR-approved teaching protocols

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3Rs principles for the use of live animals for teaching purpose

At the meeting of the Committee on the Use of Live Animals in Teaching and Research (CULATR) held on January 26, 2007, members received for information a list of teaching protocols approved by the CULATR and the number of animals supplied by the Laboratory Animal Unit for teaching experiments. In considering such information, members had raised the opinion that the **3Rs principles**, i.e. '**Replacement**', '**Refinement**' and '**Reduction**', had not been closely observed in some cases.

In this connection, I write, on behalf of the CULATR, to draw to your attention the 3Rs principles, which is briefly summarized below (more details can be found at <http://www.frame.org.uk/3rs/3rsintro.htm>):

Replacement: avoid the use of living animals

Refinement: minimize suffering and distress

Reduction: minimize number of animals used

Teachers in charge of teaching protocols are reminded to adhere to the 3Rs principles as far as possible, and in particular the principle of 'Replacement'.

For professional advice on the use of live animals for experiments, please contact Dr KS Lo, Head of Laboratory Animal Unit, at 2816 8515 or email: lauhku@hkucc.hku.hk.

Thank you for your attention.



Professor YS Chan

Chairman

Committee on the Use of Live Animals
in Teaching and Research

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