**IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON**

**Year 2021 number of animals used - 87,403**

**Types of animals used in 2021**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Type of animal | Number | Percentage |
| Mice | 77527 | 88.7% |
| Fish | 5959 | 6.82% |
| Rats | 2648 | 3.03% |
| Birds | 239 | 0.27% |
| Guinea- Pigs | 809 | 0.93% |
| Ferrets | 14 | 0.02% |
| Rabbits | 24 | 0.3% |
| Hamsters | 183 | 0.21% |

Breakdown of the number of procedures by year using the different classifications of procedure as defined by the Home Office

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Mouse | Zebrafish | Rat | Bird | Guinea-  Pig | Ferret | Rabbit | Hamsters | **TOTAL** |
| Severity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sub threshold | 18516 | 4079 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | **22602** |
| Mild | 32482 | 1262 | 552 | 239 | 50 | 7 | 6 | 107 | **34705** |
| Moderate | 14969 | 184 | 961 | 0 | 585 | 0 | 0 | 73 | **16772** |
| Severe | 510 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | **514** |
| Non-  Recovery | 1608 | 3 | 117 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | **1732** |
| Total number of scientific procedures carried out under project licence authority | 68085 | 5528 | 1631 | 239 | 635 | 14 | 10 | 183 | **76325** |
| Animals used for breeding or tissue collection purposes | 9442 | 431 | 1017 | 0 | 174 | 0 | 14 | 0 | **11078** |
| **Total** | **77527** | **5959** | **2648** | **239** | **809** | **14** | **24** | **183** | **87404** |

**Research**

Intermittent fasting changes the gut bacteria activity of mice and increases their ability to recover from nerve damage.

The study assessed nerve regeneration of mice where the sciatic nerve, the longest nerve running from the spine down the leg, was crushed. Half of the mice underwent intermittent fasting (by eating as much as they liked followed by not eating at all on alternate days), while the other half were free to eat with no restrictions at all. These diets continued for a period of 10 days or 30 days before their operation, and the mice’s recovery was monitored 24 to 72 hours after the nerve was severed.

Sleep triggered by stress can help mice cope with later anxiety

Stress boosts a kind of sleep in mice that subsequently relieves anxiety, according to new research that also pinpoints the mechanism responsible.

Since sleep is similar across mammals, it is likely the same mechanism is triggered in human brains. Uncovering the mechanism could lead to artificial ways to boost its effects, helping to treat persistent stress disorders such as PTSD.

Imperial researchers join scientists at some of the UK’s leading research institutions as part of a major new consortium to counter bird flu.

A SARS-CoV-2 test for bats using faecal samples could boost understanding of how wild animals transmit viruses to other animals and humans.

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/news/182410/magic-mushrooms-reset-brains-depressed-patients/>

Magic mushrooms may 'reset' the brains of depressed patients -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XgbDWyHsYmU>

U tube video

Magic mushroom drug could improve treatment

9 MAR 2015

creating a glass "window" in the skulls of mice before damaging their brains with a laser.

In 2012 Cruelty Free International (operating as BUAV) went undercover at an animal experiments laboratory at Imperial College London. We uncovered the terrible plight of animals used in research at this “world-leading” UK university.

OUR FINDINGS

Our investigator worked for seven months at Imperial College London, ranked as one of the best universities in the world. She documented a catalogue of misery and poor practice shedding new light on the reality of animal experiments in the UK. This included:

* animals who suffered even more than was allowed in the experiment because of staff incompetence and neglect
* a failure to provide adequate anaesthesia and pain relief
* breaches and lack of knowledge of UK Home Office project licences which set out what can be done to the animals used in these experiments
* the shocking way in which animals were killed.

ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS

Research was carried out on mice and rats at Imperial College.  This included inflicting major organ damage and surgical mutilation, or double kidney transplants. Other animals were forced to suffer invasive surgery where tubes were implanted into their heads so that substances could be injected into their brains.

Some animals were restrained while a long tube was repeatedly forced down their throats and substances injected directly into their stomachs. Others were forced to run on treadmills to avoid electric shocks until they were exhausted.

SUFFERING

The animal suffering was, in many cases, severe. Animals were found with weeping or bleeding head and abdomen wounds, diarrhoea, lethargy, hypothermia and extreme weight loss, amongst many other serious symptoms.

Many animals died during or after surgery, and others had to be killed because of the level of their suffering. Methods used to kill the animals included:

* carbon dioxide poisoning in gas chambers
* breaking the animals’ necks
* beheading live animals with a guillotine