



25 years of EU Reference Laboratory for Alternatives to Animal Testing

Dedicated to 3Rs – Replacement, Reduction and Refinement of animal experiments

1991

Foundation of ECVAM, the European Centre for the Validation of Alternative Methods, at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre in Ispra, Italy.

1994

ECVAM Opening Symposium "The Validation of Replacement Alternative Methods".

2000

Inclusion of first in vitro replacement tests for skin corrosion and phototoxicity testing into EU law.

2002

International recognition of ECVAM's validation process at OECD conference.

2010

Alternative methods for full replacement of skin irritation, skin corrosion, phototoxicity and skin penetration testing accepted as OECD Test Guidelines and included in the EU Test Methods Regulation.

2011

ECVAM becomes EURL ECVAM, the EU Reference Laboratory for Alternatives to Animal Testing.

Publication of 1st edition of the EURL ECVAM Search Guide, a means for effective retrieval of information on alternative methods.

1997

First Statement of the ECVAM Scientific Advisory Committee on an in vitro method for phototoxicity testing of chemicals.

1999

Third World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in Life Sciences organised by ECVAM with signing of the Three Rs Declaration of Bologna.

2004

ECVAM publishes its Modular Approach to Validation of alternative methods to achieve more flexibility while retaining scientific rigour.

2006

Launch of DB-ALM, the ECVAM Database Service on Alternative Methods.

2016

OECD endorses three Adverse Outcome Pathways developed by EURL ECVAM signalling a clear shift towards knowledge-driven design of Integrated Approaches to Testing and Assessment using alternative methods.

Updates to REACH Regulation making in vitro methods the default route to satisfy information requirements for serious eye damage and eye irritation, skin corrosion and irritation, and skin sensitisation.

EURL ECVAM has organised **86** workshops on the development, validation and acceptance of alternative methods & has validated around **50** alternative methods | There are **37** members in the network of validation laboratories | **56** Statements/Opinions have been issued by the EURL ECVAM Scientific Advisory Committee | **EURL ECVAM** has led the development of **14** OECD Test Guidelines and Guidance Documents on alternative methods | **DB-ALM** has over **5000** registered users, from **82** countries & contains **over 300** method descriptions

Joint
Research
Centre