Nurses Movement for Responsible Medicine Newsletter

NMRM

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Nurses Movement for Responsible Medicine (NMRM) was founded in October 2007 by Cynthia O'Neill, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V. to provide nurses with a channel through which they could express their concerns in relation to the high number of adverse drug reactions suffered by so many of their patients.

The Objective of NMRM is the Immediate and Unconditional Abolition Of All Animal Experiments On Medical and Scientific Grounds

"The use of human tissue obtained during operations to remove tumours or during other brain surgery, as well as autopsy studies, resulted in the only real progress for understanding the human brain. I am about to test them on human lymphocytes and other human cell lines."

Dr Professor Claude Reiss
For 30 years Research Director of the Molecular Genetics Centre of the French National Centre for Scientific Research.

Scientific Research Without Animals

"Over 1 million EU Citizens voice their support to Human Health issues by signing the PC stop vivisection."

In 1986 there was an initiative launched by the European Commission – the 86609 Directive. …If you can propose an alternative to animal experiments based on scientific reasons it should have then have been adopted immediately. But this was not done due to the fact that the 2010, the Directive 2010 33, modified considerably the 1986 609 Directive in the way that the responsibility for not choosing animal experimentation instead of satisfactory scientific methods was left to the member states. This meant that some countries escaped very easily this rule.

The following is an extract from a speech given by Professor Claude Reiss in Rome, Italy in 2014:

"…You know that we are exposed to about 200,000 manmade chemicals in our environment and we have to know what the effects of these chemicals on our health is. Now in almost all cases even if a chemical has been tested in almost all cases it has been tested in animals... This is not satisfactory if you look at the trend of adverse health effects over the past ten years. …The evolution of diabetes type 2 in the French population, the data has been uncovered from official health control agencies in France. I think it is current here in Italy and the same is true in England in UK and also in the United States with the CDC which publish at intervals devolution of important health issues in the population. Now here you see that diabetes in France between 2000 and 2009 has almost doubled. The same is true if you look at the incidents of cancer, prostrate cancer, in France. Now we have the figures since 1980 to 2005. At the end of 1990 there was a slight increase, but starting at between 1990 and 2000 we have a very sudden and steep increase of the number of prostrate cancers being diagnosed in French men. These are incidents, the number of people being diagnosed with the disease within a given year (not to be confused with other problems).

…Breast cancer incidents in France: Among one million women in France there was a steep increase of the number of cases being diagnosed with breast cancer between 1980 and 1985 and 2005. Again, the number of women being concerned by this is almost doubled in the past 10 years.

Alzheimer's disease is a disease which is acknowledged in people over 65 years of age. The data for 2000 to 2010 is not published so we have to rely on an aberration that has been made by the elemental office that control the health politics in France. You will see that in 2010 about 5% of people over the age of 65 were concerned with Alzheimer's disease. Today this is about 650,000 people being concerned by this disease.

…If we take all these figures together and look at incidents with the number of people being diagnosed in a given year: In the year 2000 we have 140,000 people being diagnosed with diabetes 2, Alzheimer's 190,000, breast cancer 20,000, prostrate cancer 18,000, autism 160,000. All in all, it's almost 370,000 people being diagnosed in 2000 with these diseases. If you go to 2009: for diabetes 210,000, Alzheimer's 316,000, breast cancer 49,000, prostrate cancer 97,000, autism 8,000. So, all in all, 680,000 people being diagnosed in 2009 with these rather serious diseases or development problems.

…the number of people living a given year whether the disease has been diagnosed during this year or in the previous years: diabetes type 2 one point five million in 2000, Alzheimer's 500,000, breast cancer 470,000, prostrate cancer 330,000, autism 180,000. All in all, two million eight hundred thousand people living with these diseases in 2000.

In 2009, three point two million people being affected by diabetes type 2, 850,000 with Alzheimer's, 900,000 women with breast cancer, one million men with prostrate cancer, autism has soared up to 650,000. All in all, we have close to 6 million people suffering from these diseases in 2009. So, you see that the trend is quite impressive… It seems these kinds of figures, just taking those that have been published by official organisms in France, and no further manipulation of this data, you see that we are going to hurt very very strongly human health in France and, I think, in Italy. Things are quite serious.

If prevention is not improving very significantly over the next years, and as soon as possible, what will be the future for our children born since 2000 when they will be in their best years, in forty, fifty, sixty years? So for this, to try to forecast this kind of evolution, we just ask the computer to separate the data I've just shown you to see what's going to happen the next few decades.

By 2050 forty percent of people over age fifty will be affected with diabetes type 2, almost half of the population of those being born since 2000. Breast cancer: five thousand out of a million women, five out of a thousand, will be concerned by breast cancer just in the year 2050. This every year will increase this number… The situations even worse for prostrate cancer. In 2050 six men in one hundred will be diagnosed with prostrate cancer. That is, almost every man will be concerned with this disease by 2050. …One out of three will be autistic. Twentyfour percent of people born since 2000 may be affected by Alzheimer's by the year 2070. …Male fertility is going down constantly since about forty or fifty years… Already today, 1 out of 7 couples need assistance for procreation, and by 2024 if this trend goes on, every couple will have to consider medical assistance for procreation.

For children born since 2000, when they reach their best of their years, age 40, 50, or 60, one out of 3 will be a medic, one of the 5 will suffer Alzheimer's, one woman of the 3 will be concerned by breast cancer, no man will escape prostrate cancer… To stop this bad trend we have to make very serious prevention. Presently prevention is mainly left to animal models. We are humans, and we have biologically nothing to do with animals, so we have to switch over to reliable prevention if we want these curves to be modified and have a better issue concerning human health.

…In 2006 we went to the European Parliament in Brussels and told the members there is now a new way to assess toxic risks using Toxic Genomix, which is assessing toxic risks on human cells in culture with methods that are quite relevant, very fast and not very expensive. And, of course, no animal concerned in this.

So we went and asked these people to consider Toxic Genomix.in the frame of the REACH project; by that time it was about to be voted by the European Parliament and we had the agreement of the European Parliament. Yes, of course Toxic Genomix is a good method and we are going to introduce it in the REACH project.

Now we are quite certain that this would be accepted by the European Commission because of the directive 26609 saying that if there is method different to animal experimentation it must be accepted, so that's the reason why we were not very happy with the modification of 26609 which leaves it to the individual states the possibility or not to use animal experimentation.

So Toxic Genomix is a method which is based on human cells in culture. We have some two hundred and fifty different cell lines in our organism and we know how to culture all these cells. So we can expose very simply these cells in a given culture and try to see how the cells are going to react once they are exposed to the chemicals. Toxic Genomix is precisely a method which allow us to be present inside of the cell and to see what the chemical is going to change in the genes which are expressed because of the exposure to this chemical. Some of the genes are stimulated by the product and some of the genes are repressed because of the chemical and others are still not concerned at all. Toxic Genomix is rare in toxic risk assessment. It takes advantage of the human cell culture and the genomix. It is gentle, age and specific assessment. Indeed we can test the chemical that is of concern to female, to elder people, to young people, to babies and to different ethnicities. The method is one hundred times faster and one hundred times less expensive than animal experimentation.

…Logging precisely the genetic biological influence of these genes on human health, we can forecast for this kind of experiment if the cell is going to take pathways to certain diseases like cancer, like confirmation diseases like Alzheimer's and diabetes… This can read like in a newspaper. It can read precisely what a chemical is going to do once the person has been exposed to this product.

… The thing is to change. To stop vivisection is a timely opportunity to get animals out of facilities that deal in human health issues, trace assessment, toxicity assessment and biomedical research…"

NB: Professor Reiss did explain in his full speech that autism isn't a disease & cannot be cured. Professor Reiss is French and uses the term "concerned with" whereas we are more used to the term "suffering from."

Dr Professor Claude Reiss
January 2014.

Science and Toxicology

The following is an extract from a scientific paper
by Professor Claude Reiss PhD
published in the journal:
Biogenic Amines
Nov 2003.

"…Despite the fact that many years of research are invested in doing development and testing, adverse drug reactions (side effects) rank as the fourth leading cause of death in the EU, claiming 20,000 lives annually in France alone (and a total of 120,000 lives in the EU).

It is thus obvious that the current testing methods are failing to protect public health.

…A species is defined in terms of its reproductive isolation, meaning that members of different species cannot interbreed. This is because a given species has its own genetic make-up (from number, organisation and structure of chromosomes, through to regulation and control of gene expression).

Modern biology has clearly demonstrated that the genetic make-up of an individual determines the precise biological activities of its cells, tissues and organs. Hence individuals from different species have different genetic make-ups and therefore display different biological activities, even if some appear similar. The claim that members of a given species can substitute as reliable biological models for other species is therefore untenable.

In particular, the assumption that results obtained from some mammalian species are valid for humans is unfounded and seriously compromises human health. …if injected with the hepatitis virus, one out of ten or so chimpanzees might develop a mild form of hepatitis and will recover quickly (in humans, the virus causes chronic hepatitis and sometimes liver cancer); and when injected with the Ebola virus, the chimpanzee dies of hemorrhagic fever, as do some humans. In other words, the best animal model we know behaves in opposite, different and identical fashion to humans. Nobody can forecast the result, which can only be arrived at after observing the test in both species. Testing animal models is, therefore, at best, useless, and often dangerous to humans…

Toxicology is the science of living organisms (biology) in contact with a toxic substance (the xenobiotic). Over the past half century, biology has made unprecedented leaps, moving away from empiricism, and instead, towards exact science. Toxicology can benefit from the concepts, methods and tools developed in modern biology and thereby achieve the status of an almost exact science.

In addition, the cell is where life starts. It is therefore not surprising that the answers to practically all problems in biology must first be sought at the cellular level. Human diseases almost invariably have a cellular origin, whether the cause is endo- or exogenus. This holds true for cancer, neurological diseases and cardiovascular conditions, to cite the most frequent and life-threatening ailments in EU countries. It follows that harm done to the cell by a toxic substance is the first step to disease.

The stage is then set for Science Based Toxicology (SBT) as opposed to the traditional toxicology assessment using animal models. SBT has its roots in modern molecular and cellular biology. The study of what happens when human cells come into contact with toxic substances will then be the first step required for reliable assessment in humans.

Modern biology has also made impressive strides in the study of integrated systems, at the tissue, organ and system levels. Non-invasive methods (various imaging techniques, organ function biochemistry, etc.) are available, allowing us to conduct molecular and cellular human risk assessment of substances to which consumers are extremely exposed (prescription drugs, food additives, pesticides etc.).

…The response to a toxic event may be acute and systematic, or it may be delayed. The latter outcome may be due to an accumulation of minor damages, which manage finally to overcome cellular defence and repair mechanisms (a major cause of liver and kidney diseases); or a long induction period might typically result in the development of cancer – given that it takes an average five to ten years between the onset of proliferation of a cell and the detection of the resulting tumour. Hence, long-term toxic responses.

…The benefits of SBT allows one to understand a mechanism by which a substance produces its adverse effects, which in turn helps to predict its long-term effects. By identifying cancer promoting substances, cancer prevention could be halved within the next three to five years. By the same token, reliable assessment of prescription drug toxicity could save tens of thousands of lives each year in the EU. Neurotoxic substances (80% of insecticides are neurotoxic) would be identified and removed from the market, thereby reducing the risk of damage to the neuronal development of children (according to the FDA, this could be the case for rotenone). Detection and removal of endocrine proliferators would prevent both abnormal development of sex organs and most hormone-dependent cancers (breast, ovary, prostrate)…"

Professor Claude Reiss PhD