CAAT is an academic center within the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Department of Environmental Health Sciences. The Johns Hopkins University and CAAT are 501(c)(3) organizations and dependent on voluntary donations to support us.

The Johns Hopkins University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, age, disability or veteran status in any student program or activity administered by the university or with regard to admission or employment. CAAT celebrates diversity.

For more information about the Center, its programs and publications, or to make a donation, please visit our web site: http://caat.jhsph.edu
We have attempted to turn walls into safety testing, and education. biomedical research, product alternative methods in development and use of is a world leader in the animal testing. Today, CAAT's goals of better science, efficiency, bridges by promoting the shared science and alternatives to animal testing. Today, CAAT is a world leader in the development and use of alternative methods in biomedical research, product safety testing, and education. CAAT seeks to effect change by working with scientists in industry, government, and academia to find new ways to replace animals with non-animal methods, reduce the numbers of animals necessary, or refine methods to make them less painful or stressful to the animals involved.

In 2010, CAAT became the first transatlantic competence center in the field of alternatives with the establishment of CAAT-Europe at the University of Konstanz, Germany. Since then, CAAT-Europe has brought together stakeholders from the US and Europe to forge consensus, harmonize policy, and drive scientific innovation. CAAT follows a philosophy known as the 3Rs of alternatives—replacement, reduction, and refinement. Replacement: Don’t use animals if a non-animal method exists that can answer the scientific question at hand. Reduction: If you must use animals, keep the number to the minimum necessary to answer the question. Refinement: If you must use animals, keep any pain or distress they experience to a minimum.

Our Mission
CAAT works to protect and enhance the health of both people and animals. Our mission is to:

• Promote and support research in the development of in vitro and other alternative techniques.
• Serve as a forum to foster discussion among diverse groups leading to creative approaches to facilitate acceptance and implementation of alternatives.
• Provide reliable information on the science, philosophy, and public policy of alternatives to academia, government, industry, and the general public.
• Educate and train in the application of alternatives.

CAAT is the Secretariat of the Refinement Working Group (DNT), evidence-based toxicology (EBT), refinement, food safety, education, to the use of dogs in medical research.

Innovation, Education, and Implementation of 21st Century Humane Science
The shared goals of enhancing animal welfare, improving the quality of science, and increasing the cost efficiency of research methods lie at the heart of all of CAAT’s activities, which include:

ALTEX: Alternatives to Animal Experimentation
The leading international scientific journal on alternatives and the official organ of CAAT, the American Society for Cellular and Computational Toxicology (ASCTC); Doerenkamp-Zbinden Chairs in Germany, India, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the US, and the UK; European Society for Alternatives to Animal Testing (EUSAAT); and the Transatlantic Think Tank for Toxicology (t³).

Altweb: The Global Clearinghouse for Information on Alternatives to Animal Testing
The most comprehensive web resource on alternatives, managed by an international project team. http://altweb.jhsph.edu

Research Grants
CAAT’s grants program provides critical seed money for researchers developing cutting-edge alternative methods.

Awards
Animal Welfare Enhancement (AWE) Award, Henry Spira Award, CAAT Recognition Award, and the Charles River Excellence in Refinement Award.

Transatlantic Think Tank for Toxicology (t³)
Includes leaders in the fields of evidence-based toxicology and alternatives from the University of Konstanz (Marcel Leist) and Utrecht University (Bas Blauwboert), as well Thomas Hartung and Alan Goldberg from Johns Hopkins University. t³ develops new concepts, workshops, symposia, and articles to advance toxicology.

Evidence-based Toxicology Collaboration (EBTC)
Toxicologists with backgrounds in industry, government oversight, academia and animal welfare have created the EBT Collaboration to foster the development of a process, based on Evidence-based Medicine (EBM), for quality assurance of new toxicity tests for the assessment of safety in humans and the environment. CAAT serves as the Secretariat of the EBTC.

Policy Programs
CAAT’s Policy Program educates policy makers and legislators about the need for alternatives to the use of animals in toxicity and safety testing and in biomedical research.

Education Programs
CAAT’s education programs include a free online course in OpenCourseware, a certificate program in Humane Sciences and Toxicology Policy, and other courses through the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Meetings and Symposia
CAAT regularly presents meetings, workshops and symposia in the US and Europe, with expert speakers from around the world discussing topics ranging from developmental neurotoxicity (DNT), evidence-based toxicology (EBT), refinement, food safety, education, to the use of dogs in medical research.

Refinement Working Group
CAAT is the Secretariat of the Refinement Working Group, which brings together top industry and academic researchers to develop new approaches to refinement, especially for pharmaceutical development and testing.

Pioneers Since 1981
Since its establishment in 1981 with a $1 million grant from the Cosmetic, Toiletry, and Fragrance Association (CTFA), the Johns Hopkins Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing (CAAT) has been pioneering humane science and alternatives to animal testing. Today, CAAT is a world leader in the development and use of alternative methods in biomedical research, product safety testing, and education.

“We have attempted to turn walls into bridges by promoting the shared goals of better science, efficiency, economy, and humanity.”

—Henry Spira

“... the humanest possible treatment of experimental animals, far from being an obstacle, is actually a prerequisite for successful animal experiments.”

—Russell and Burch, British scientists who first expressed the ‘3Rs’ of alternatives