

Animal Research Policy

Bowel cancer is the fourth most common cancer in the UK and the second biggest cancer killer. It is vital that we support research that will allow us to diagnose people earlier and develop new and more effective treatments (including improvements to surgery). Some of this research may involve animals.

Bowel Cancer UK will not fund animal research unless it is essential and there is no alternative.

The UK has the strictest regulations in the world to control the use of animals in medical research. We support the position of the [Association of Medical Research Charities](#) regarding the [use of animals in research](#) and are committed to the 3Rs.

The 3Rs are:

- Replace the use of animals with alternative techniques, or avoid the use of animals altogether.
- Reduce the number of animals used to a minimum by seeking ways to find out information from fewer animals or more information from the same number of animals.
- Refine the way experiments are carried out, to make sure animals suffer as little as possible. This includes better housing and improvements to procedures which minimise pain and suffering and/or improve animal welfare.

All Institutions funded by Bowel Cancer UK are expected to hold and maintain the required Home Office licenses and ensure they are in full compliance with current regulation around the use of animals in research.