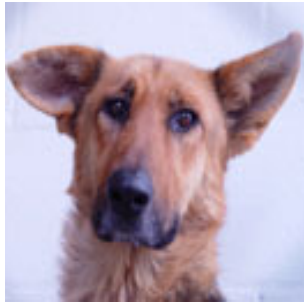


# ANIMAL RESEARCH NEWS & ANALYSIS

**THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES**



## Pet Safety and Protection Act Back in Congress

The Pet Safety and Protection Act was re-introduced in Congress in February 2007. The bill would prohibit research facilities from purchasing dogs and cats from Class B dealers who buy and re-sell the animals. For over 40 years, animal protectionists have been concerned about the procurement and treatment of "random source" dogs and cats by Class B dealers. Such random source animals are purchased at trade-day sales and animal shelters, as well as from middlemen called "bunchers," who have been known to acquire pets by theft from owners or by deception from "free to good home" advertisers.

In 2005, a Class B dealer had his license revoked by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and paid a record fine of \$250,000 for violations of the Animal Welfare Act. The conditions under which the dealer acquired dogs and then treated them at his kennel were chronicled in the compelling HBO documentary, "Dealing Dogs."

The HSUS opposes all trafficking in pets for resale to biomedical research labs. In 1966, an HSUS investigation of a Class B dealer laid the groundwork for passage of the Animal Welfare Act. Only 15 Class B dealers exist today.

Sources: [The HSUS](#)

## Feb-March 2007

### In this issue...

[Pet Safety and Protection Act Back in Congress...](#)

[University of Colorado Ends Sales Demonstrations...](#)

[New Public Policy at CAAT...](#)

[Study Shows Variation in Animal Tests...](#)

[University of Washington Accreditation on AALAC Probation](#)

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### Noteworthy...

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Pig

## University of Colorado Ends Sales Demonstrations

The University of Colorado at Denver Health Sciences Center (UCDHSC) has reportedly halted the use of animals in sales demonstrations after learning that at least 18 dogs and 191 pigs were killed for this purpose at the university. The sales demonstrations were conducted by an electrosurgery device manufacturer. This practice was uncovered by In Defense of Animals, an animal protection organization, which shared its findings with the UCDHSC. The university quickly announced that it would be terminating these sales demonstrations as they were not befitting its core mission. According to the university, "the campus will no longer allow our facilities to be used for programs where the sole purpose is the training of sales personnel."

The UCDHSC case came to light shortly after publicity surrounding a similar case at the Cleveland Clinic, an Ohio-based facility at which a staff physician performed what turned out to be an unauthorized brain surgery on a dog for a sales demonstration of a medical device. Unlike the Cleveland incident, however, the UCDHSC demonstrations were reportedly authorized and ongoing over the past 6 years. Over 200 animals were purchased from Class B dealers for use in these procedures. In the wake of the Cleveland Clinic situation, The Humane Society of the United States began calling upon Congress to amend the Animal Welfare Act to bar the use of live animals in sales demonstrations.

**Source:** [In Defense of Animals](#); [Daily Camera](#)

(CDC) has regained accreditation with the Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) International, after being placed on probation because of animal care problems, including the death of two monkeys caused by dehydration. The CDC has not yet released copies of AAALAC's reports filed after its most recent review of the CDC's animal laboratories. [Learn More >>](#)

In March, the courts dismissed a lawsuit involving the chimpanzees transferred from Ohio State University to Primarily Primates last year. The lawsuit was brought by Professor Sally Boysen, who worked with the chimps for many years. The judge decided that Boysen could not prove that she owned the chimpanzees, who had technically been donated to the university. [Learn More >>](#)



## New Public Policy at CAAT

The Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing (CAAT) at Johns Hopkins University is launching a new program in public policy, education and outreach, in order to educate policy-makers and legislators about the use of animals in toxicity, safety testing, and biomedical research and the need for alternative methods. CAAT will work with "with partners in the animal welfare, environmental health, and scientific communities to foster a policy and legislative culture that values the lives of animals and promotes the most humane science possible," according to the Johns Hopkins press release.

CAAT promotes the 3Rs approach, seeking to replace, reduce, and refine the use of animals in science. (Refinement refers to modifications in procedures that lessen animal suffering or enhance animal welfare.) "During the past two decades, changes in science and public expectations have led us to rethink the ways in which we approach research and testing," said CAAT's Alan Goldberg.

Source: [Johns Hopkins University](#)



## Study Shows Variation in Animal Tests

A recent study, 'Knockout Mice: Is It Just Genetics? Effects of Enriched Housing on Fibulin-4<sup>+/-</sup> Mice,' illustrates the often overlooked impact that environmental parameters can have on the results of animal experiments. The study examined the structure of the aorta in normal mice versus those with a particular gene "knocked out" or inactivated

The researchers found that the knockout mice had more microscopic defects ("gaps") in their aortas than did the control mice. The researchers then divided another set of the knockout mice into two groups: one group housed four mice per cage, in "standard" cages (26 cm x 16 cm x 12 cm) with bedding only; and one that housed only two mice per cage with additional enrichment (more space, exercise wheel, etc.). At the end of the study, the mice in enriched cages had aortas with fewer defects and less surrounding fatty deposits than their counterparts in the standard caging. The enrichment had partially reversed the impact of the genetic manipulation.

Thus housing conditions can significantly impact research results, potentially confounding comparisons among otherwise similar studies. The HSUS believes that the impact of enrichment should not be used as an excuse to continue housing animals under standard, i. e., impoverished conditions, which have little bearing on the lives of the animals under study, let alone on the human condition. Enrichment, which provides minimal stimulation for laboratory animals, should be provided routinely for the sake of animal welfare and good science.

Source: [Medical News Today](#)



## University of Washington Accreditation on AALAC Probation

The University of Washington has been placed on probation by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) International, a private, nonprofit organization that, according to its website, "promotes the humane treatment of animals in science through voluntary accreditation and assessment programs." Over 700 research institutions in 29 countries have sought and received AAALAC accreditation.

AAALAC International conducted an on-site assessment of the University of Washington and then issued a report, which included a set of recommendations. These reports are usually confidential but details of the University of Washington case have been reported by *The Scientist* and the *Seattle Times*. Infractions reportedly included a faulty heating and cooling system, overcrowding, improperly caged rodents, and dirty cages. The University has been given six months to correct the problems.

After being placed on probation, University relocated over a 100,000 animals from its health science building to another building on campus. The University plans to spend \$20 million dollars in order to make the recommended upgrades to its facility. The University has been asked to give AALAC a report on its progress by May 1 2007.

Source: [The Scientist](#); [Seattle Times](#)

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