

## Properly Moderated Public Scientific Debate

Dear Understanding Animal Research,

Thank you for your response, which however is very unsatisfactory. We will now not be drawn into secondary issues or distracted by your red herrings. The priorities need to be clearly recognized. To offer a brief re-cap:

1. Parliamentary EDM 263 was originally tabled – and since re-tabled as current EDM 22 – by Paul Flynn MP. EDM 263 reads:

That this House notes the new campaign For Life On Earth which is critical of avoidable experiments on animals; is alarmed that all studies measuring the claimed ability of animals to predict human responses expose a low success rate in the region of 31 per cent; further notes that a success rate in the region of 90 per cent is required by medical practice; further notes that the National Cancer Institute has said that cures for cancer have been lost because studies in rodents have been believed; and calls for properly moderated scientific public debates on the misleading results and bad science of animal experiments.

2. UAR publicly responded (via twitter) by agreeing to participate in such debate. This you have confirmed in each of your subsequent letters.
3. As stated in the [Conditions](#) for this agreed debate, its subject will be: ‘Resolved: Animal models have no predictive value for human response to drugs and disease’. In addition, we have agreed to your proposal of subsequent debates and themes. As stated in our letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> August, we do not find it acceptable to replace this agreed debate on the Question of the Predictive Value of Animal Models for Human Patients with any other debate theme.
4. In accordance with the Debate Conditions, the main speaker for the proposition will be Dr Ray Greek. The next practical step in the dialogue between FLOE and UAR (as stated in our letter of 12<sup>th</sup> August) is for you ‘to let us know the name of the scientist who will argue against the proposition’. To repeat, until this name of your main speaker is forthcoming we will not be drawn into any of the other issues.
5. In your letter of 23rd September you say that all your scientists are too ‘busy’ to commit to giving their names as participants. This situation renders your ‘Concordat on Openness on Animal Research’ an empty and valueless proclamation, due to being considered of such insufficient importance by your very own scientists.

A copy of this letter is being sent to all supporting MPs, and will be taken forward by them as our dialogue within Parliament regarding the EDMs continues.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Groves, Alex Irving, Deborah Minns and Louise Owen.

Directors (respectively of [Human Rights: Patient Group](#); [NO to Animal Experiments](#) (comprising the campaigns Save the Harlan Beagles and Oppose B & K Universal), and their flagship science-based campaign [For Life On Earth](#)).