The Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) is a national, non-profit organization acting in the interest of Canadians to advance high standards of animal ethics and care in science throughout Canada.

Created in 1968, the CCAC develops guidelines based on expert peer advice and current interpretation of scientific evidence and oversees their implementation, assesses and certifies institutions working with animals for scientific purposes, and provides tools and training resources.

**FUNDING**

The CCAC is financed primarily by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), with additional contributions from annual program participation fees paid by CCAC-certified institutions participating in its programs.

Designed to be equitable and affordable, while preserving the arm’s-length nature of the CCAC and its programs, the fee structure ensures that the contribution of an institution is not linked to the resources required from the CCAC.

**2000+**

- **VOLUNTEER EXPERTS**
  - veterinarians, animal welfare experts, researchers, bioethicists, etc.

- **COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

  - **~200 LOCAL ANIMAL CARE COMMITTEES**

  to help fulfill the CCAC’s mandate and deliver its programs in institutions across Canada.

In both Canada and abroad, animals are studied and counted in the wild, on farms, and in research facilities for Canadian science.

From biomedical laboratories where researchers study fundamental science, to veterinary colleges where students learn to treat animals, and national parks where biologists study wildlife populations, the CCAC and its network of volunteer experts are there to ensure the highest standards of animal ethics and care.

www.ccac.ca
Newly generated genetically modified animals are classified as Category of Invasiveness D as a precaution until the welfare status of the animals can be determined.

Fish, mice, and guinea pigs were the most frequently used animals in procedures which were classified as Category of Invasiveness E. The majority of these procedures were conducted for regulatory testing.

Category of Invasiveness A is assigned where protocols involve the use of tissue, tissue culture, eggs, invertebrates, protozoa, or other animal use where neither vertebrates nor cephalopods are involved, and are not published in the CCAC annual animal data reports.
CERTIFICATION

institutions were on probation

public and private sector
institutions belonged to the
CCAC program

199

6

institutions were on probation

FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

43%

Studies of a fundamental nature in science relating to essential structures or functions

Investigating how certain hormones produced from the gut and brain regulate energy balance, growth, and reproduction in fish

Studying the migration patterns of an endangered species of bird

MEDICAL OR CLINICAL STUDIES

31%

Studies for medical purposes that relate to human or animal diseases or disorders

Studying rodents to better understand the genes involved in human diabetes, cancer, and arthritis

DEVELOPMENT OF PRODUCTS OR DEVICES

14%

Studies for the development of products or appliances for human or veterinary medicine

Studying pigs to develop artificial organs for humans

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

7%

Teaching and training to communicate scientific concepts, and develop practical skills and expertise in specific techniques

Training college and university students in the principles of biology and animal health

REGULATORY TESTING

5%

Studies for regulatory testing of products for the protection of humans, animals, or the environment

Health Canada’s regulatory standards require medical research be performed on animals before human trials can commence

Testing the efficacy of a new medication for Parkinson’s Disease on nonhuman primates

Three Rs

Replacing or avoiding animals in science

Reducing the number of animals in science

Refining care and procedures to minimize pain and distress

While there are many alternatives to animal testing currently under development, only those methods that are validated and accepted by government agencies can be used in regulatory testing.

The majority of animals reported in 2019 were in fundamental research studies, representing 2,051,079 animals.

www.ccac.ca