

H&H GROUP ANIMAL TESTING POLICY

(Updated: 07/10/2024)

Background

Health and Happiness (H&H) International Holdings Limited (otherwise known as “H&H Group” and referred to as “the Group” in this document) is a global health and nutrition company headquartered in Hong Kong and listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, with a second head office in London. The Group has three business segments – Baby, Adult and Pet Nutrition and Care – supporting whole-family health and happiness, with premium brands providing nutrition and wellness solutions backed by science. Consumer brands include Biostime, Swisse, Zesty Paws, Solid Gold Pet, Dodie, Good Goût, and Aurelia London.

H&H Research drives new product and technology developments aiming at meaningful consumer health benefits, through scientific innovation with new ingredients, formulations, formats, and packaging, while ensuring regulatory compliance and quality assurance. This enables the Group to deliver evidence-based products that promote human and pet health and wellness across the entire lifecycle.

In the majority of cases, the Group develops and finalizes products without the use of animal testing. However, animal testing may be required in some circumstances, such as:

- To satisfy regulatory requirements for commercialization;
- To evaluate the safety of a compound that will be used in a product;
- To obtain scientific evidence of the suitability of a product/compound for health benefits and use in vulnerable populations, such as infants and children, seniors, and pre-disease states;
- To support mode of actions that allow for scientific advances in human and pet nutrition and health.
- To help understand pet physiology and behaviour to develop products that improve pet quality of life.

Purpose

This policy outlines our commitment to internationally recognized high-quality standards of care for laboratory animals, and our principles to replace, reduce and refine animal testing.

Scope

This policy is applicable to all of the Group’s three business segments, including Baby Nutrition and Care (BNC), Adult Nutrition and Care (ANC), and Pet Nutrition and Care (PNC), and the brands within those segments. It applies to animal testing performed internally by the Group, as well as externally by our research collaborators. “Animal testing” is defined as the use of non-human animals during laboratory experimentation.

Commitments

Animal testing will only be used for research when no appropriate research models and/or human research models are available, or when assessments are required by national/international regulatory authorities for pre-market approval. Pet testing will only be executed with express, written content of

the pet owner. Study procedures will not involve significant impairment of the wellbeing of the animal nor harm their general condition. Moreover, when possible non-mammalian models are preferred. No beauty products will be tested on animals.

Where animal testing is necessary, we will endeavour to ensure this:

1. Has received approval by an authorized external Ethics Committee;
2. Is compliant with international and/or national legal, scientific, and quality standards;
3. Is performed by qualified institutions and individuals that adhere to this policy.

Our principles to replace, reduce and refine animal testing include:

- Wherever possible, to adopt a scientifically satisfactory methodology or testing strategy that does not involve the use of animal testing (*replace*).
- Optimize experimental design to ensure that the number of animals used during animal testing is reduced to a minimum (*reduce*).
- Ensure the refinement of breeding, accommodation, care, and methods used in procedures to eliminate or reduce to the minimum any possible pain, suffering, distress or lasting harm to the animal (*refine*).

Communication

Any animal studies performed or associated with the Group will aim to be submitted to an international peer reviewed journal, to ensure adequate contribution to knowledge development in the field, including communication on ethical approval procedure(s).

ANNEX 1

SEVERITY ASSIGNMENT

H&H Group animal testing has a severity classification of mild to non-recovery procedures.

The severity of a procedure is determined by the degree of pain, suffering, distress or lasting harm expected to be experienced by the animal during the course of the procedure. The procedure consists of a combination of one or more technical acts carried out on an animal which may cause that animal pain, suffering, distress, or lasting harm. The assignment of the severity category considers any intervention or manipulation of an animal within a defined procedure. The severity category shall be assigned based on the most severe effects likely to be experienced by an individual animal, after applying all appropriate refinement techniques.

Classification

<i>Non-recovery procedure</i>	Procedures, which are performed entirely under general anaesthesia from which the animal shall not recover consciousness.
<i>Mild procedures</i>	Procedures on animals as a result of which the animals are likely to experience short term mild pain, suffering or distress. Procedures with no significant impairment of the wellbeing or general condition of the animals.
<i>Moderate procedures</i>	Procedures on animals as a result of which the animals are likely to experience short term moderate pain, suffering or distress, or long-lasting mild pain, suffering or distress. Procedures that are likely to cause moderate impairment of the wellbeing or general condition of the animals.
<i>Severe procedures</i>	Procedures on animals as a result of which the animals are likely to experience severe pain, suffering or distress, or long-lasting moderate pain, suffering or distress. Procedures, that are likely to cause severe impairment of the wellbeing or general condition of the animals.

ANNEX 2

ANIMAL TESTING GOVERNANCE CHECKLIST

Project:

Business Segment:

Project Lead:

Collaborator(s):

Part A

Proposed animal testing:	Brief Description
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Will the animal testing be authorized by an ethical committee?	Yes	No	If yes or no, please provide details
Will the animal testing be compliant with international or national legal, scientific, and quality standards?	Yes	No	If yes or no, please provide details
Will the animal testing facility and animal handlers be certified to perform animal testing?	Yes	No	If yes or no, please provide details
Will the proposed animal testing be aligned with our principles to replace, reduce and refine animal testing?	Yes	No	If yes or no, please provide details
<i>Principles:</i> <i>Wherever possible, to adopt scientifically satisfactory methodology or testing strategy, not entailing the use of animal testing (replace).</i> <i>Optimization of experimental design to ensure that the number of animals used during animal testing is reduced to a minimum (reduce).</i> <i>Ensure refinement of breeding, accommodation, and care, and of methods used in procedures, eliminating or reducing to the minimum</i>			

<i>any possible pain, suffering, distress or lasting harm to the animal (refine).</i>			
Will the animal testing have a severity classification of mild to non-recoverable?	Yes	No	If yes, please provide details
<i>Classifications:</i> <i>Non-recoverable: Procedures, which are performed entirely under general anaesthesia from which the animal shall not recover.</i> <i>Mild: Procedures on animals as a result of which the animals are likely to experience short term mild pain, suffering or distress. Procedures with no significant impairment of the wellbeing or general condition of the animals.</i>			

If “Yes” is the answer for all questions, proceed to **PART B** for signatures.

If “No” is the answer for any question, please consult with the Group’s Chief Technology Officer prior to proceeding to **PART B** for signature.

Part B

We acknowledge that the proposed animal testing complies with H&H Group animal testing policy based on the information provided in this document. *(Please insert name and signature:)*

H&H Group Lead Researcher