



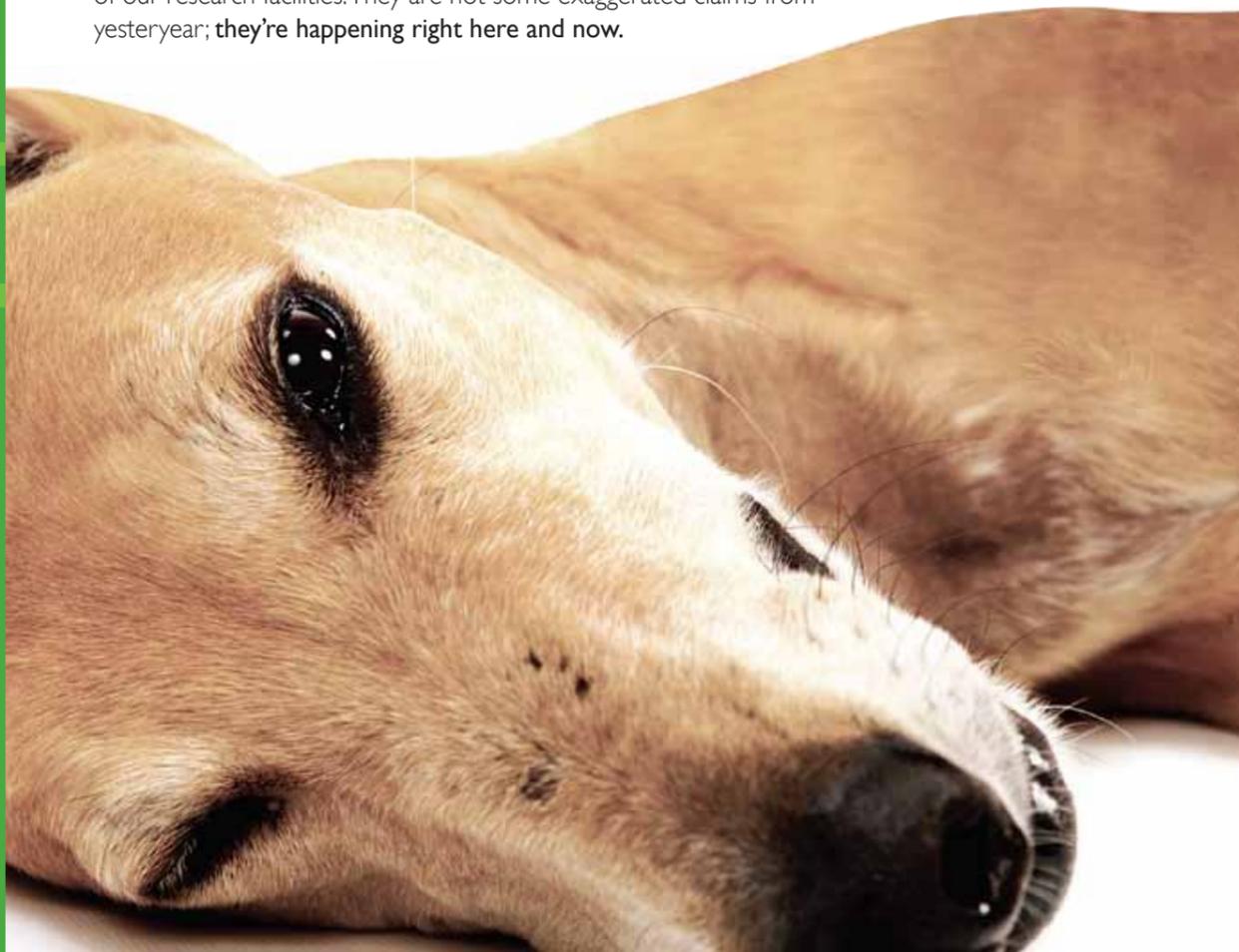
TAX PAYER FUNDED CRUELTY

Australian tax-payers are inadvertently funding unethical and unnecessary animal experimentation. Every year the National Health and Medical Research Council grants hundreds of millions of tax dollars to numerous medical and scientific research facilities to conduct experiments on animals.

There is a **grave public misconception** that animal experimentation is a necessary evil if we are to find cures for human illness and disease. It is also widely believed that the animals used in these government sanctioned experiments are protected from cruelty and suffering through the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, the NHMRC's Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes, and the Animal Ethics Committees associated with each research institution, whose task is to scrutinise every proposed use of an animal in an experiment.

Sadly, **these mechanisms fail to prevent cruelty and suffering** from occurring. They fail because the medical and scientific researchers, and the facilities they work in, are for the most part self-regulated. There is **no independent assessment, little transparency, and next to no accountability** within this hidden industry. The federal government, through the NHMRC, hands out hundreds of millions of dollars every year; yet has no independent assessment procedures in place to review the outcomes of the research it has funded, nor does it take responsibility for ensuring its own code of practice is adhered to by the scientists conducting the experiments.

As a tax payer, **you have a right to know how government research funding is spent.** Over the page are examples HRA has uncovered of **recent unethical and inhumane research funded by your tax dollars.** These examples reveal the cruel experiments currently occurring behind the closed doors of our research facilities. They are not some exaggerated claims from yesteryear; **they're happening right here and now.**



- Invasive and distressing surgical procedures conducted on conscious greyhounds
- Cats killed for vision experiments
- Marmosets killed after invasive brain probing experiments
- Traumatic brain injury induced in rats
- Lambs shaken to death
- Silicone breasts implanted in pigs



For further information on these and other recent tax payer funded animal experiments please see our website www.humanerresearch.org.au/case-studies/

What you can do

Politely write, call or email the NHMRC and Federal Health Minister Tanya Plibersek, to demand they stop wasting your tax dollars on cruel, ineffective and unnecessary animal experiments, and instead direct funding to ethical, scientifically valid non-animal based research that will ultimately provide far greater health benefits for humans, and in turn prevent the suffering of millions of animals each year.



The Hon Tanya Plibersek,
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