

The Institute for In Vitro Sciences, Inc. – A Non-Profit Organization Dedicated to the Advancement of Alternative Testing Methods

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The Institute for In Vitro Sciences was founded in 1997 as a non-profit, technology driven, organization dedicated to the advancement of alternative test methods. The Institute functions as an independent technical and educational resource which strives to coordinate various efforts taking place in the field nationally and harmonize them with international activities.

To meet these goals the Institute:

1. Provides high quality non-animal research and testing services
2. Sponsors workshops and training courses in *in vitro* methods
3. Actively participates in outreach programs that provide education, and scientific and technical counsel on emerging issues including alternative methods validation and implementation in the US and Europe.
4. Provides a forum where Industry, Government and Animal Welfare proponents can meet to determine constructive programs which effectively reduce animal use.

By doing the above IIVS can:

- Protect public health and safety through the use, refinement and development of *in vitro* tests
- Facilitate prompt reduction, refinement and replacement of animals used in testing through *in vitro* technology

Since its inception, IIVS has taken a global view of the non-animal testing field and has effectively co-operated with numerous international organizations. Collaborations with ZEBET have provided some of the most effective activities, and we expect that continuation of such joint programs will provide momentum to the alternatives field for the foreseeable future.