



**Institute of Animal Technology (IAT) Statement 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

**Undercover footage at the Laboratory of Pharmacology and Toxicology (LPT) near Hamburg, published by Cruelty Free International and Soko Tierschutz.**

The IAT strongly condemns the conduct of the “technicians” as shown in the video footage circulated by Cruelty Free International.

The video shows “technicians” routinely and inappropriately using collar and pole on juvenile macaque monkeys, violently removing them from their cages, and in one incident a monkey has its head smacked against a door frame. Monkeys are also forced into a restraining chair, with procedures performed in the presence of other distressed monkeys.

It is clear that these terrified monkeys have neither been habituated to interact with staff nor trained to accept the restraining chairs, which is considered good practice by the IAT.

Some of the monkeys appear to be kept alone in undersized metal cages and exhibit stereotypic behaviour by spinning in circles, indicating high levels of distress.

Dogs are pictured laying in what seemed to be their own blood and faeces, with one beagle in a cage appearing to be bleeding. The pens in which they were kept did not have any soft surfaces, let alone a raised resting area or any environmental enrichment.

In view of the physiological and psychological distress exhibited by the monkeys and dogs, it is right to question the scientific validity of any results obtained under these conditions?

Staff also appeared to mishandle cats with little or no empathy.

To reiterate, the Institute abhors and condemns what appears to be a complete breakdown in the culture of care, with staff showing a complete lack of compassion, let alone any knowledge of good practice and training. The individuals shown in the video do not represent what the IAT believe to be professional animal technologists, who strive to provide the best environment and optimum care possible at all times.

We expect the German authorities to robustly investigate the contents of this video, following which the appropriate sanctions are applied.

**IAT Ethical Statement**

***In the conduct of their Professional duties Animal Technologists have a moral and legal obligation, at all times, to promote and safeguard the welfare of animals in their care, recognising that good laboratory animal welfare is an essential component of good laboratory animal technology and science. The Institute recognises and supports the application of the principles of the 3Rs (Replacement, Reduction, Refinement) in all areas of animal research.***