



## Animal Free Research UK is Britain's leading medical research charity working for a world where human diseases are cured faster without animal suffering.

We also ensure that horses and ponies We fund pioneering research which is forging a future where animals are replaced with modern, human relevant techniques.

The use of advanced technology to study human disease is unearthing new discoveries and treatments every day - without animal suffering - and yet sadly the use of horses in medical research, for example, has increased by 29% over the past decade. **A better and kinder science is possible.**

Your gift will fund 50% of a new Breast Cancer research project which will use

cutting-edge technology - 3D cell culture - to study how breast cancer spreads. This project will improve our understanding of this cruel disease, that once spread has a poor survival rate of just 27%.

### About Animal Free Research UK

We are a UK and Scottish registered charity with a 50-year history of uniting animal-loving communities and scientists to drive research forward without animal suffering.

Our scientists are at the forefront of the laboratory revolution which is replacing outdated animal testing with new and advanced technologies. Our research is based at some of the top universities in the UK including University of Exeter, University of Nottingham, and University College London.

### Why is a Kinder Science Needed?

Over 3 million animals suffer in Britain's laboratories every year and in 2020 we saw the number of experiments has risen by 3% in dogs and 11% in cats.

92% of new medicines that look promising in animal experiments fail in human trials.<sup>1</sup> Fundamental differences between species mean that the results from animal experiments cannot be reliably translated to people and may in fact be impeding advances in treatment.

For example, there have been 23,000 animal studies into Parkinson's Disease - and yet still no treatment.

### Breast Cancer Research - Human Relevant Research

Your gift of £12,000 will part-fund a new Breast Cancer project at the University of Aberdeen (matched by a grant from Medical Research Scotland). Breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in women with 55,000 women diagnosed annually in the UK. While overall 5-year survival rates are 99% for localized diseases, this drops to 27% once the cancer has spread<sup>2</sup>, and is usually incurable.

This project is being led by esteemed scientist Professor Valerie Speirs, a founder of the UK's Breast Cancer Now Tissue Bank.

The team will develop human 3D cell cultures that emulate the vascular system allowing for detailed studies and improved understanding of how breast cancer spreads. They will use patient-derived breast cancer cells giving many advantages compared to studying cancer in an animal. We hope this will speed up drug discovery and potential treatment.

**Thank you for reading about our work.**

1. <https://www.bio.org/clinical-development-success-rates-and-contributing-factors-2011-2020>

2. SEER Cancer statistics review, 1975-2015; National Cancer Institute; 2018

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