JaCVAM Statement on the Syrian Hamster Embryo Cell Transformation Assay

At a meeting held on 21 February 2018 at the National Institute of Health Sciences (NIHS) in Kawasaki, Japan, the Japanese Center for the Validation of Alternative Methods (JaCVAM) Regulatory Acceptance Board unanimously endorsed the following statement:

Proposal: We do not consider the present Syrian Hamster Embryo Cell Transformation Assay (SHE CTA) to be suitable as a replacement for established carcinogenicity tests, nor is it suitable for predicting the carcinogenicity of a test chemical, either in a scientific or a regulatory context, even when positive test results are obtained. The SHE CTA can only be considered for regulatory use as a supplementary test in combination with structure-activity relationships, such as one item to be considered in a weight-of-evidence approach to evaluation or part of screening to determine prioritization for the implementation of carcinogenicity tests.

This statement was prepared following a review of the Guidance Document on the In Vitro Syrian Hamster Embryo (SHE) Cell Transformation Assay, Series on Testing & Assessment No. 214 together with other materials prepared by the Cell Transformation Testing JaCVAM Editorial Committee to acknowledge that the results of a review and study by the JaCVAM Regulatory Acceptance Board have failed to confirm the usefulness of this assay.

Yasuo Ohno
Chairperson
JaCVAM Regulatory Acceptance Board

Akiyoshi Nishikawa
Chairperson
JaCVAM Steering Committee

30 March 2018

The JaCVAM Regulatory Acceptance Board was established by the JaCVAM Steering Committee, and is composed of nominees from the industry and academia.

This statement was endorsed by the following members of the JaCVAM Regulatory Acceptance Board:

Mr. Yasuo Ohno (Kihara Memorial Yokohama Foundation for the Advancement of Life Sciences) : Chairperson
Mr. Naofumi Iizuka (Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency)*
Mr. Yoshiaki Ikarashi (National Institute of Health Sciences: NIHS)
Mr. Noriyasu Imai (Japanese Society for Alternatives to Animal Experiments)
Mr. Tomoaki Inoue (Japanese Society of Immunotoxicology)
Mr. Yuji Ishii (Biological Safety Research Center: BSRC, NIHS)
Ms. Yumiko Iwase (Japan Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association)
Mr. Takeshi Morita (Japanese Environmental Mutagen Society)
Mr. Shunji Nakai (Japan Chemical Industry Association)
Ms. Ruriko Nakamura (National Institute of Technology and Evaluation)
Mr. Akiyoshi Nishikawa (BSRC, NIHS)
Ms. Maki Noguchi (Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency)**
Mr. Satoshi Numazawa (Japanese Society of Toxicology)
Mr. Kazutoshi Shinoda (Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency)
Ms. Mariko Sugiyama (Japan Cosmetic Industry Association)
Mr. Hiroo Yokozeki (Japanese Society for Cutaneous Immunology and Allergy)

Term: From 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2018
*: From 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017
**: From 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018

This statement was endorsed by the following members of the JaCVAM Steering Committee after receiving the report from JaCVAM Regulatory Acceptance Board:

Mr. Akiyoshi Nishikawa (BSRC, NIHS): Chairperson
Mr. Toru Kawanishi (NIHS)
Mr. Manabu Fuchioka (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
Ms. Yoko Hirabayashi (Division of Toxicology, BSRC, NIHS)
Mr. Akihiko Hirose (Division of Risk Assessment, BSRC, NIHS)
Ms. Mitsue Hirota (Pharmaceutical & Medical Devices Agency)
Mr. Masamitsu Honma (Division of Genetics and Mutagenesis, BSRC, NIHS)
Mr. Yasunari Kanda (Division of Pharmacology, BSRC, NIHS)
Mr. Atsushi Kato (National Institute of Infectious Diseases)
Mr. Kouichirou Koike (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
Ms. Kumiko Ogawa (Division of Pathology, BSRC, NIHS)
Mr. Taku Oohara (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
Mr. Kazutoshi Shinoda (Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency)
Mr. Atsuya Takagi (Animal Management Section of the Division of Toxicology, BSRC, NIHS)
Mr. Masaaki Tsukano (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
Mr. Shinichi Watanabe (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
Mr. Hajime Kojima (Division of Risk Assessment, BSRC, NIHS): Secretary