

Grant Theme Decided for 12th Mandom International Research Grants on Alternatives to Animal Experiments

Mandom Corporation (head office: Osaka City, President Executive Officer & Director: Motonobu Nishimura, hereinafter referred to as “Mandom”) is working to develop alternatives to animal experiments based on the concept of animal welfare. As part of this research effort, the company has been holding its Mandom International Research Grants on Alternatives to Animal Experiments with full cooperation from The Japanese Society for Alternatives to Animal Experiments since FY2007. This will be the 12th time the event is held. After rigorous examination, it has been decided that grants will be issued regarding two research themes.

Grant Themes

When applications for the 12th Mandom International Research Grants on Alternatives to Animal Experiments first started back on November 1, 2018, the deadline for applications was set to January 31, 2019. After careful examination, Mandom has decided that this year’s research grants will be given under the following two themes.

Research grant providers (affiliation) without honorific titles	Research theme
Takayuki Yoshimoto (Department of Immunoregulation, Institute of Medical Science, Tokyo Medical University)	Development of a novel alternative method to animal experiments for evaluation of allergenic potential by human T cells
Huihui Wang (China Medical University)	Establishment and application of a cell-based high-throughput screening system for identification of cosmetics ingredient oxidative stressors

Research grants for the themes listed above are being given from April 2019.

Considerations are currently underway regarding the 13th Mandom International Research Grants on Alternatives to Animal Experiments. Mandom will issue another press release once details have been decided.

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*For reference

[About the Mandom International Research Grants on Alternatives to Animal Experiments]

The Mandom International Research Grants on Alternatives to Animal Experiments has been held since FY2007 with the aim of promoting and widely recommending research in alternatives to animal testing and encouraging more active research in alternative fields.

During the 12th Mandom International Research Grants on Alternatives to Animal Experiments, Mandom collected research themes from around the world, mainly Asia, regarding alternatives to animal testing. The conditions were as follows:

▪ **Requirements for entering the 12th Mandom International Research Grants on Alternatives to Animal Experiments**

- 1) Theme Research regarding alternatives to animal testing (any field of study)
- 2) Grant Amount 500,000 - 2M yen per grant, total of 2.5M yen/year
- 3) Schedule Nov. 1, 2018 Applications begin
 Jan. 31, 2019 Application deadline
 Early Feb. 2019 Selection begins
 Early Apr. 2019 Grant theme is decided
 Until Mar. 31, 2020 Grant period (1 year)

[Mandom’s Stance on Developing Alternatives to Animal Testing]

There have been more and more animal rights movements in countries all around the world in recent years. As a result, the European Union (EU) has banned the selling of cosmetic products with animal-tested ingredients since March 2013.

In Japan, the reconsideration of animal testing has tended to be highly regarded in society from the perspective of animal welfare according to the concept of the 3Rs (Replacement: Using other methods that do not involve animals, Reduction: Decreasing the amount of use on animals, and Refinement: Lessening the suffering caused to animals). This has resulted in the more active development of alternatives to animal testing.

On the other hand, various methods need to be utilized to confirm the safety of cosmetics. Mandom fundamentally uses alternatives to animal testing and human testing (patch tests, sting tests, etc.), and has officially declared that it will not perform animal experiments. Mandom also believes that alternatives to animal testing need to be further developed in order to better ensure the safety of its products. This is why Mandom is currently focusing on “Replacement” in particular among the 3Rs, and is working on developing alternatives to animal testing, and a part of this initiative is to give grants by inviting the public to join in the effort to research alternatives to animal testing.