

Grant Theme Decided for 17th Mandom International Research Grants on Alternatives to Animal Experiments

Mandom Corporation (head office: Osaka City, President Executive Officer & Director: Ken 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 17th time the event is held. After rigorous examination, it has been decided that grants will be issued regarding three research themes.

Grant Themes

When applications for the 17th Mandom International Research Grants on Alternatives to Animal Experiments first started back on November 1, 2023, the deadline for applications was set to January 1, 2024. After careful examination, Mandom has decided that this year’s research grants will be given under the following three themes.

Research grant providers (affiliation) without honorific titles	Research theme
Nobuhiko Kojima (Graduate School of Nanobioscience, Yokohama City University)	Development of translucent spheroid
Wei Liu (Dalian University of Technology)	Comparative studies on toxic effects of chemicals in 2D human bronchial epithelia cells and 3D airway organoids
Yasuhiro Ishihara (Graduate School of Integrated Sciences for Life, Hiroshima University)	Development of a novel device for skin culture reflecting outdoor environment

Research grants for the themes listed above are being given from April 2024.

Considerations are currently underway regarding the 18th Mandom International Research Grants on Alternatives to Animal Experiments. Mandom will issue another press release once details have been decided.



*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 17th 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 17th 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 3M yen/year	
3) Schedule	Nov.1, 2023	Applications begin
	Jan. 31, 2023	Application deadline
	Feb.1, 2024	Selection begins
	Early Apr. 2024	Grant theme is decided
	Until Mar. 31, 2025	Grant period (1 year)

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

In the wake of the EU ban on animal testing for cosmetics issued in March 2013, the global effort to develop alternatives to animal experiments has sped up. The developed replacements are now coming on stream as new methods of safety evaluation.

In Japan, the principles of the 3Rs to promote animal welfare are guiding the way in developing these methods. The 3Rs are namely: Replacement (Using other methods that do not involve animals); Reduction (Decreasing the amount of use of animals); and Refinement (Lessening the suffering caused to animals). Discussion and development are ongoing on testing methods that bring greater precision in predicting and evaluating products and their effectiveness.

At Mandom, our policy is not to use any animal testing. The safety of cosmetics products we manufacture and market are assured through the use of replacement methods as well as of testing on human subjects (including patch test and skin test). We are highly aware that the development of alternatives to animal experiments focusing on greater experiment precision is an essential part of further raising safety standards, and we have been awarding international research grants on alternatives to animal experiments in addition to our current drive to promote the development of replacement methods to animal testing.

We make every effort when it comes to securing the safety of the cosmetics products we manufacture and market, which is something we promote as an initiative for one of the material issues (materiality) within our sustainability strategy, namely "maintaining/enhancing the corporate base." Our everlasting mission is expanding and strengthening our Dedication to Service, and we will continue our efforts as a company that recognizes the value of its existence from all stakeholders.