

December 21, 2004

Barbara J. Slatt, Ph.D., MBA  
Manager, R&D  
The Procter & Gamble Company  
Miami Valley Laboratories  
P.O. Box 538707  
Cincinnati, OH 45253-8707

2 pages via fax (513-627-1587) and U.S. postal mail

Dear Barbara:

In your letter dated December 2, 2004, you argue: “[PETA’s] allegation that [Iams] failed to enforce [its] terminal research moratorium for this study [conducted by Dr. Geza Bruckner at the University of Kentucky] is irrelevant, as this was not a terminal study. The causes of death for all the animals [PETA] lists were not study-related. In addition, unlike what happens in the naturally-occurring FHL [feline hepatic lipidosis], *there is no mortality in the laboratory model*” (*my emphasis added*).

The claim that “there is no mortality in the laboratory model” of FHL is demonstrably false, as evidenced by the following research studies:

1. Blanchard, Géraldine *et al.* “Dietary L-Carnitine Supplementation in Obese Cats Alters Carnitine Metabolism and Decreases Ketosis During Fasting and Induced Hepatic Lipidosis.” *Journal of Nutrition*. 132: 204-210, 2002.

In Dr. Blanchard’s study, “[t]he model of Biourge ... was used to induce FHL.” Dr. Blanchard notes: “In control queens, the increments of plasma fatty acid and  $\beta$ -hydroxybutyrate concentrations during fasting and FHL were related to the negative energy balance. The severe ketosis observed in FHL is life threatening, which may explain the relatively large number of cats that died from FHL in the control group (4/7 vs. 1/4 in the supplemented queens).” As you know, in his “Research Project Proposal,” Dr. Bruckner states that he used a model similar to the one developed by Biourge *et al.* “to assess the impact of the various nutrient interactions as they impact the development of FHL.”<sup>1</sup>

2. Blanchard, Géraldine *et al.* “Plasma lipids, lipoprotein composition and profile during induction and treatment of hepatic lipidosis in cats and the metabolic effect of one daily meal in healthy cats.” *Journal of Animal Physiology and Animal Nutrition*. 88: 73-87, 2004.

Again, using an FHL-induction protocol similar to the one developed by Biourge *et al.*, Dr. Blanchard writes: “Four queens from the HL [hepatic lipidosis] group did not recover from FHL; they all developed a severe and sudden form of the disease and died in the first 2 days of treatment. . . . [T]he mortality rate of 57% in our HL group is consistent with other severe hepatic lipidosis mortality data.”

---

<sup>1</sup> The Biourge model of FHL-induction used by Drs. Bruckner and Blanchard is referenced as follows: V.C. Biourge *et al.* “Experimental induction of hepatic lipidosis in cats.” *Am J Vet Res*. 55: 1291-1302, 1994.



**PETA**

PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL  
TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

501 FRONT ST.  
NORFOLK, VA 23510  
757-622-PETA  
757-622-0457 (FAX)

PETA.org  
Info@peta.org

AN INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANIZATION DEDICATED  
TO PROTECTING  
THE RIGHTS OF ALL ANIMALS

Clearly, these studies indicate that mortality can, and does, occur in the “laboratory model” of FHL, which means that Dr. Bruckner’s Iams-funded study (in which four cats either died or were euthanized) *was* a terminal study. And since Dr. Bruckner’s study started nearly three months *after* Iams’ March 1999 terminal research moratorium went into effect, a policy violation *did* occur.

On a separate note, you mentioned in your December 2, 2004, letter that the information that I had sent to you regarding FIDO (and Tiny TIM, I’m assuming) was under review “as part of a larger program aimed at reducing the use of chicks in evaluating the digestibility of proteins.” However, you didn’t mention a timeframe for how long such a deliberation might take. During this deliberation period, we urge you to suspend all of Iams’ PER studies that use live chicks. Needless to say, we are very disappointed but not surprised that Iams has not already replaced the use of chicks in these tests.

Also, you neglected to answer my question as to whether Iams would either partially or completely fund TNO Food and Nutrition’s feline equivalent of FIDO (totaling nearly 350,000 to 400,000 euro by TNO’s estimate).

May we please hear from you? If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [ShalinG@peta.org](mailto:ShalinG@peta.org) or 757-962-8325. Thank you for your time.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shalin Gala", written over a horizontal line.

Shalin Gala, Research Associate  
Research & Investigations Department

cc: Mary Beth Sweetland  
Wayne Pacelle  
Ed Sayres