

**Fostering International Validation and Acceptance of New and Alternative Methods:  
ICCVAM and NICEATM Initiatives**

W Stokes<sup>1</sup>, M Wind<sup>2</sup>, L Schechtman<sup>3</sup>, R Tice<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>NICEATM/NIEHS/NIH/DHHS, RTP, NC, USA; <sup>2</sup>US CPSC, Bethesda, MD, USA; <sup>3</sup>Innovative Toxicology Consulting, LLC, Lake Worth, FL, USA.

International cooperation throughout the validation and evaluation of new and alternative test methods is essential to facilitate the international acceptance of scientifically valid methods. Since their establishment 10 years ago, ICCVAM and NICEATM have emphasized international involvement and cooperation in their activities and actively participated in related international efforts. NICEATM recently completed the first international validation study conducted in collaboration with ECVAM and initiated the first international validation study involving NICEATM-ICCVAM, ECVAM, and JaCVAM. NICEATM and ICCVAM seek to involve the best scientific experts and participation from the international scientific community in its activities, and have included scientists from several different countries in all independent scientific peer review panels and workshops. ICCVAM and NICEATM scientists work closely with ECVAM and JaCVAM to share information and coordinate related activities, and participate on respective advisory committees. ICCVAM and NICEATM have also worked successfully with their international partners to develop internationally harmonized guidance on validation, GLPs, humane endpoints, and regulatory acceptance. These broad international cooperation and coordination efforts have produced international scientific consensus on the validity of new and alternative methods, and hastened the adoption and use of valid methods. Continued and expanded international cooperation can be expected to facilitate future global progress. Supported by: NIEHS N01-ES-35504, N01-ES-75408.

This abstract reflects the view of the authors and does not represent the official position of any federal agencies.