

The Redesigned NICEATM-ICCVAM Website: Improving Communication with Stakeholders

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Communication with stakeholders is a critical aspect of the ICCVAM mission to facilitate development, validation and regulatory acceptance of new and revised regulatory test methods that reduce, refine, and replace the use of animals in testing. Recognizing that the Internet represents a primary source of information for ICCVAM stakeholders, NICEATM-ICCVAM recently launched a redesigned version of its website (<http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov/>). The new NICEATM-ICCVAM website provides four searchable databases that facilitate locating Federal Register (FR) notices, public comments, NICEATM-ICCVAM publications, and guidelines and regulations. Additional searchable databases containing information specific to test method areas are currently under development. Visitors to the website can also obtain up-to-date information on test method evaluation activities, relevant guidelines and regulations, and meeting and workshop information. Procedures for making nominations and submissions to ICCVAM and background information concerning NICEATM and ICCVAM are also available. Online forms enable visitors to submit public comments to NICEATM and register for NICEATM meetings and workshops. Persistent menus and a site map enable easy navigation throughout the website, and all information is presented in a manner that is consistent with U.S. Federal Government Plain Language Guidelines. The revised NICEATM-ICCVAM website will play a key role in facilitating effective communication between NICEATM-ICCVAM and its stakeholders.