

# American Medical Student Association Position

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PHYSICIANS COMMITTEE FOR RESPONSIBLE MEDICINE

5100 WISCONSIN AVE., N.W., SUITE 400 • WASHINGTON, DC 20016  
PHONE (202) 686-2210 • FAX (202) 686-2216 • PCRM@PCRM.ORG • WWW.PCRM.ORG

*The American Medical Student Association's Principles Regarding Vivisection in Medical Education were established in 1986 and amended in 1993 and 2007. Among these principles are the following.*

AMSA:

- Strongly encourages the replacement of animal laboratories with non-animal alternatives in undergraduate medical education. (2007)
- Condemns the use of household pets (e.g., cats and dogs) from pounds, shelters, and Class B random source animal dealers. (2007)
- Urges that all medical school classes and laboratories involving the use of live animals be optional for students, who for moral or pedagogical reasons, feel such use is either unjustified or unnecessary. (1993)
- Supports the practice of giving medical students complete information beforehand on the source, procurement procedure, transportation, kenneling, and state of health of animals who would be used for educational purposes, so that medical students can make their own informed ethical decisions. (1986)
- Urges that alternative educational materials, such as films, videotapes, and computer simulations be provided for students who do not choose to attend these classes and labs. (1986)
- Condemns the practice of faculty intimidation of medical students to force them to attend classes and labs using live animals. (1986)
- Condemns the laxity in the administration and maintenance of anesthesia and analgesia for animals during and after procedures. (1986)