

# Using the Internet to Research Vivisection

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## **PrimateLabs.com**

<http://www.primatelabs.com> (shameless plug)

PrimateLabs.com is a new website which offers news, commentary, and information on primate vivisection across the country. At the top of the page, one can click “Vivisectors” or “labs” to find vivisectors/labs in their area that use primates. It then lists a basic summary of their research project(s), amount of money received, and contact information. This is a continual work in progress, and it should never be considered an exhaustive list of everyone using primates. If you have any additions or corrections to information, or would like help further researching/understanding a vivisectors’ works, you can email the site at [info@primatelabs.com](mailto:info@primatelabs.com). The information on the site is updated regularly. The site also features archived media articles, legal opinions, journal articles, photos, and video.

## **CRISP – Computer Retrieval of Information on Scientific Projects**

<http://crisp.cit.nih.gov/>

CRISP is a database maintained by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) that allows you to search all of their currently funded research. Be aware, much of what is on this database is not research on animals. After clicking “Go to CRISP query form,” you can search by name, state, institution, or even search terms relevant to the particular research project; such as “primate” or “dog” or “cat.” Make note of the grant number, specifically the beginning of the grant number where you will find a letter followed by two numbers, of any research project, as this will give you a clue as to what type of grant you are looking at. Here are a few you will see frequently:

**R01** – These are grants awarded to an institution to allow a Principal Investigator (PI) to pursue a specific scientific focus or objective. These are the most common vivisection grants.

**P20** – These are grants for large programs at an institution. These provide the institution with resources for several research projects rather than funding a specific project. These usually fund centers of research.

**K##** - Any grant that begins with K are to further the career of a scientist or scientist(s). These are often “up and coming” vivisectors. These are new researchers to the field – often grad students – and represent their gateway into the research (torture) community.

For a full list of types of NIH grant numbers, see

<http://www.primatelabs.com/grantnumbers.pdf>

## **The Vivisectors’ Websites**

Vivisectors often have their own websites hosted by the university that they work for. Often there are more laymen’s descriptions of their research here, and, if you’re really lucky, photos and/or video. Simply google their names to help you find this.

## **PubMed**

<http://www.pubmed.gov>

PubMed is a searchable database provided by the National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health containing published medical and scientific journals. In the search field, you can either use topic search terms (“macaque monkey”) or you can search for a researchers’ name. The correct way to search for their name would be to use their last name followed by their first and middle initial. So for me, Jeremy S. Beckham, you would search “Beckham JS.” You can then click a particular paper of theirs, and view an abstract of their paper. In many cases, you can also read the entire paper for free. Students may be able to use their university library to access journals that others would normally have to pay for. When viewing a paper, look for the “Materials and Methods” section in particular, as this outlines the basics of what they are doing to animals.

## **USDA/APHIS (United States Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service) Animal Welfare site**

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_welfare/index.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/index.shtml)

Useful documents and forms at the USDA’s website include:

### **List of all registered research facilities -**

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_welfare/efoia/downloads/reports/R\\_cert\\_holders.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/efoia/downloads/reports/R_cert_holders.pdf)

This shows all laboratories that are inspected by the USDA (all those that have species of animal covered by the AWA – so not mice, rats, birds).

**Form 7023** – [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_welfare/efoia/7023.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/efoia/7023.shtml)

All labs are required by law to submit an annual 7023 form to the USDA. The USDA’s website is not fantastic, however, so they don’t have a report for every lab for every year. Form 7023 includes a count of all their animals, and a basic accounting for how many animals are being used for breeding and how many are being used for particularly painful research (Column ‘E’). Remember, however, that under federal law, mice, rats and birds are not ‘animals’ so you won’t see a count of them and labs that only have these species are invisible to the USDA. Sometimes, 7023 also contains an attached “approved exceptions” form. These are instances where the lab is violated federal animal welfare law, but it’s A-OK because their local animal care and use committee gave it a stamp of approval. These forms can be very useful.

**Inspection Reports** – At one time, you could find inspection reports on the USDA website for many vivisection labs. However, paradoxically, after Obama issued an order calling for greater transparency and openness in federal agencies, the USDA took down all inspection reports for research facilities. You can still get these forms if you make a FOIA request for a specific institution or institution(s) with the USDA, but it will take a while. And they may reappear on their site at some point.

### **FOIA Information**

The USDA website has information on how to file a FOIA request with them. Simply click the link on the right titled “I want to submit a FOIA request.”