

NEW EU 6th FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME PROJECT "CARCINOGENOMICS" STARTED NOVEMBER 07, 2006

Novel alternative method approaches in carcinogenicity and mutagenicity.

This new project, supported by the EU and with 20 institutions to participate, out of academia, industry, SMEs and other stakeholders, will run for 5 years.

Its major aim is to develop *in vitro* methods for testing the carcinogenic properties of compounds as an alternative to the chronic rodent bioassays for assessing chemical genotoxicity and carcinogenicity. The major goal is to develop a battery of mechanism-based *in vitro* tests representative for various modes of carcinogenic action, in lungs, liver and kidney.

It is expected that the outcome of this project will generate a platform enabling the investigation of large numbers of compounds for their genotoxic and carcinogenic potential. This will contribute to speeding up the process of identifying potential harmful substances to man, while lowering costs and reducing animal tests.

Thus, the CARCINOGENOMICS project will have a measurable and verifiable impact on testing needs as identified under REACH.

The CARCINOGENOMICS project represents a highly innovative approach possibly leading to *in silico* (computer-based) models that may be used to predict the carcinogenic potential of a compound *in vivo*.

A critical mass of twenty of the leading European investigators in these areas of toxicogenomics research has been brought together in this Integrated Project.

Total funding by the EU amounts to € 10,440,000 over the 5-year-period of active research.

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