

Understanding Animal Research Statement on the undercover footage released from Vivotecnia, Spain

“It is for the relevant authorities in Spain and the EU to investigate the practices seen in footage from Vivotecnia, Spain, that was exposed in the [Guardian](#). However, the footage clearly shows poor animal care and examples of malpractice that fall well below the standards of humane care that we expect from facilities which use animals in science. Understanding Animal Research fully supports the 3Rs of reduction, replacement and refinement and expects that animal facilities, including those within contract research organisations, follow good practice guidance and strive to create a caring workforce that treats animals with compassion and dignity.

“The clear examples of distress shown by the animals in this video, their stereotypical behaviour, fearful postures and attempts to escape their handlers should not be seen in well-trained and well-habituated animals, and leave us concerned for the wellbeing of both the animals and the people working in this environment. We condemn the practices seen here, which do not represent the caring sector that we support.”