

Opinion

Nature **465**, 690 (10 June 2010) | doi:10.1038/465690a; Published online 9 June 2010

Males still dominate animal studies

Irving Zucker¹ & Annaliese K. Beery²

Abstract

Many researchers avoid using female animals. Stringent measures should consign this prejudice to the past, argue Irving Zucker and Annaliese Beery, in the third piece of three on gender bias in biomedicine.

In the 1990s, several surveys showed a significant sex bias in animal experiments in many biological disciplines, with researchers using a disproportionately high number of male animals. Given that animal models underpin the development of treatments for numerous diseases, this has serious implications for healthcare in women.