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## OxyFile #293

Animal Models for the Application of Ozone in Veterinary and Human Medicine

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The use of animals in medical research is one of the basic principles used in order to increase our knowledge of the pathogenesis and alleviation of the symptoms of diseases in both animals and humans.

Therapeutic experiments on animals with induced diseases can be objectively better controlled than is the case with human patients.

In toxicological ozone research, many different animals species have been used in more than 100 years of ozone science. However, in experimental studies with ozone, no or very few animals models have been used. Questions arise as to the reasons for this. Do the answers perhaps lie in an attempt to save animals in line with the views of the animal protectionists, or is it simply the lack of suitable animal models, or worse still, a blissful ignorance regarding certain basic principles in medical science?

Tab. 1 shows a survey of referates from the first Iberoamerican Congress in Cuba (1990) on Ozone application, with a kaleidoscope of diseases in man treated with ozone or ozonized products. Unfortunately, but rather typical, there are no results of

experiments on suitable animal models. This situation demonstrates the dilemma in ozone therapy. Scientists in Cuba have to experiment with cheap, alternative therapies directly on man, mainly because of the economic isolation due to the U.S. trade embargo and the absence of competitive pharmaceutical firms. Sunflower oil and its ozonised compound is a cheap and effective product with no risks on external application. However, the application with ozone gas mixtures, with possible therapeutic effects and unwanted side-effects within the broad spectrum of indication, must be criticised when directly applied to the patient without the basis of empirical and experimental data from animals or animal studies. The manifold appraised applications of ozone in man must be examined in controlled studies. Otherwise, the ozone therapy will be regarded as an experimental or empirical therapy with little or no prospects of being accepted world-wide as a legal medical therapy. Nonetheless, some forms of application with ozone have been examined in animals, a first step along the way. The aforementioned Congress in Havana reported of the rectal and intra peritoneal application of Ozone in rats and rams and of the auto-transfusion with ozonised blood (ATOB) in horses; interesting aspects from the veterinary point of view. However, the true value of ozone therapy can only be estimated in connection with an induced disease (animal model).

Therefore, I would like to present you some results from animal studies where the application of ozone in induced lesions have comparative pathoetiogeneses to humans.

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