

Honoring & Celebrating...

Remarkable Results

with
Biomedical Research Awareness Day

Over the past decade, animal research has been integral to groundbreaking biomedical innovations that have transformed lives.

We've gathered powerful personal stories that highlight the impact of these advancements.



Kidney Transplant

Lisa's Story

Lisa vividly remembers learning about the role of animal research in **organ transplants**—specifically how studies in animals helped determine how long organs could survive outside the body before being transplanted. At the time, her brother-in-law desperately needed a kidney transplant. Without one, he **wouldn't survive the year**. Although he wasn't placed on the donor list in time, a fortunate turn of events occurred. Lisa's sister turned out to be a match and was able to donate one of her kidneys to her husband. The surgery was performed, and Lisa was honored to be one of the sponsors supporting them through recovery, ensuring proper care, medications, and follow-up visits. The advancements that made this **life-saving transplant** possible were rooted in animal research. Studies in **dogs and pigs** were instrumental in developing transplant techniques, understanding organ viability, and preventing rejection through immunosuppressive drugs. Thanks to these breakthroughs, Lisa's brother-in-law is alive today, a testament to the **power of science and compassion**.



Cleft Lip & Palate

James' Story

James' son, Wesley (Wes), was born with cleft lip and palate, a **genetic anomaly** caused by a gene defect that prevents the lips and mouth from forming properly. After a high-risk birth, Wes required three surgeries before his first birthday and three more since then. For James, this experience was **life-changing**—he had always championed the importance of animal research in his career, but now he saw its impact in a deeply personal way. Animal research, particularly studies with **mice and rabbits**, has been essential to developing the surgical techniques and **biocompatible materials used in cleft repair**. Additionally, medications like antibiotics to prevent infection and anesthesia for pain management were first tested and refined through animal models. James is in awe of his son's strength and resilience but knows that Wes's journey would have been far more difficult without the medical advancements **perfected through animal research**. It gave his son the chance to heal and thrive.



Premature Birth

Andrea's Story

Both of Andrea's children were born prematurely via emergency caesarean section. Her son arrived especially early, at just **34 weeks**, breached with no amniotic fluid to reposition him. In his first week of life, he faced **multiple challenges**, including unstable glucose levels, jaundice, inconsistent breathing, and concerns about infection due to the lack of fluid before birth. The medical care that kept her children safe and healthy would not have been possible without animal research. Surfactant therapy, which helps premature infants breathe, was developed through research in **rabbits and sheep**. Studies in **mice and pigs** contributed to advances in neonatal glucose regulation and phototherapy for jaundice. Antibiotics used to treat potential infections were refined through decades of testing in various animal models. Andrea is deeply grateful for the **biomedical research that saved her children's lives** and continues to provide hope for families facing similar challenges.



Tourette's Syndrome

Camille's Story

Camille's daughter struggled with severe Tourette's tics, often unable to attend school or stand. A **deep brain stimulation (DBS)** clinical trial became her last hope—and it changed her life. Research in **monkeys, rodents, and sheep** helped refine DBS. Camille hopes it will soon be approved, giving others **a chance at a normal life**.



COVID-19

Stephanie's Story

Stephanie's mother tragically passed from COVID-19, but she finds comfort knowing vaccines have protected her family. Research with **mice, hamsters, and rhesus monkeys** made these life-saving vaccines possible. She is grateful to the animals and researchers who have **saved countless lives**.



Dementia

Megan's Story

Megan lost her father to Lewy Body Dementia in 2022. Having worked in lab animal research for over 20 years, she knows firsthand the **crucial role animals play** in developing life-saving treatments. Throughout her father's battle with dementia, every medication he received helped give their family more **precious time together**. Those treatments were made possible by years of animal research, particularly studies in **mice, rats, and monkeys**. Animal models have been key in understanding the neurodegenerative processes of diseases like Lewy Body Dementia and developing drugs to manage symptoms and slow progression. Megan is deeply grateful for the animals that contributed to these advancements, knowing that without their sacrifice, her family wouldn't have had the extra time with her father that meant so much.



Diabetes

Deborah's Story

Deborah's mother manages diabetes with insulin therapy, a treatment made possible through research with **dogs and pigs**. These animals played a vital role in developing effective glucose regulation methods, greatly improving diabetes care. Thanks to their contributions, Deborah's mother enjoys a much **better quality of life**.



Pancreatic Cancer

Luke's Story

At 38, Luke was diagnosed with stage 3 pancreatic cancer. After chemotherapy, radiation, and the Whipple procedure—perfected through research in **pigs and monkeys**—he is now celebrating five years of remission. With **21 years in lab animal research**, he knows how rodents helped develop treatments like gemcitabine. For him, caring for these animals is personal.

Lives Changed, Thanks to Animal Research

Behind every medical breakthrough is a story of hope, resilience, and the animals that made it possible.

Animal research has saved countless lives—including those of our loved ones. In this brochure, you'll find real stories like Camille's, whose daughter's Tourette's improved with deep brain stimulation refined in monkeys, rodents, and sheep; Luke's, who beat pancreatic cancer thanks to treatments developed through studies in pigs and monkeys; and Megan's, who cherished extra time with her father thanks to dementia medications developed in mice and monkeys.

From vaccines to transplants, cancer treatments to diabetes care, every medical breakthrough has been shaped by the contributions of animals in research. Whether we realize it or not, we all benefit from their role in medicine every day.

Read more powerful stories at BRADglobal.org/RR or scan the QR code.

