

An Alliance for  
Evidence-Based Science



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### Why the concept of an alleged ‘humanimal’ being treated with ‘One Medicine’ contradicts current medical understanding and harms both human patients and animals

Our colleagues at [Oppose B&K Universal](#) tweeted an alarm bell last week about TV ‘super vet’ Noel Fitzpatrick and his charity the ‘[Humanimal Trust](#)’ which promotes the false concept of ‘One Medicine’, and asks for donations to fund research based on the false claim that animals - and humans - are predictive models of each other. Oppose B&K Universal are absolutely correct in their opposition to the false notion that we are all – both humans and animals - ‘humanimals’ that can be treated with ‘One Medicine’. We are alarmed that Noel Fitzpatrick appears to be entirely unaware of the decades of practical evidence now proving that laboratory animals fail as predictive models of humans; that current science now explains why one size – even with human identical twins – does not fit all, and that the concept of ‘One Medicine’, for animals and humans alike, is scientifically impossible.

On the second page of this statement we provide quotes by Mr Fitzpatrick taken from his website and a radio interview, demonstrating his belief that there is, medically speaking, “zero dividing line” between animals and human patients. Our comments addressing these false claims are **in red**.

The president of the medical Board which illustrates our evidence, Dr Ray Greek, has published a paper in the peer reviewed scientific literature precisely addressing the false concept of ‘One Medicine’ and how it causes - including fatal - harm to human patients. Please visit [this link](#) to read that article.

Despite all of the above, it appears that Mr Fitzpatrick also claims to want to help lab animals. If he is genuine about this he should immediately stop promoting the false concept of ‘Humanimals’ being treated with ‘One Medicine’. He should read the seminal work *Animal Models in Light of Evolution*, familiarise himself with [Trans-Species Modeling Theory](#) and study the [many papers](#) published in peer reviewed scientific literature which explain why animals are now known to fail as predictive models of humans. Mr Fitzpatrick should also visit [our quotes](#) from pharmaceutical companies, which acknowledge the failure of animal models in their drug development process and write about this openly and often in the scientific literature.

For those short of time, [this link](#) provides a very incomplete list of medicines which heal humans but kill animals, and vice versa. Here are [fifty further examples](#) of animal models that have led to human deaths, and here’s another snapshot [leaflet](#) outlining only some of the many reasons current science now provides, supporting our common sense decisions not to rush our children, and other relatives, to the local vet when they fall sick.

Science has now entered the age of personalised medicine and understands that even human identical twins can suffer from different illnesses, requiring treatments that are unique to their specific genetic profiles. It is shocking that Noel Fitzpatrick’s promotion of ‘humanimals requiring One Medicine’ ignores this up-to-date medical knowledge.

**QUOTES by Noel Fitzpatrick, taken from the 'humanimal' website and a radio interview on [Today FM](#). Our comments are in red:**

Noel Fitzpatrick: "We all breathe air, we all have skeletons, we all have organs we're all going to die. We are animals, there's very little difference between you, me and a dog". **This is nonsense. We have no idea why Noel Fitzpatrick makes such a [plainly false statement](#), which ignores modern genetics and the entire field of current understanding of evolutionary biology.**

Noel Fitzpatrick: "Human medical practice is entirely based on the experimentation on animals - and I'm not against that don't get me wrong, a certain amount of it is necessary to get you a hard stent, hopefully you won't need it for a while, but there you go. But what people don't realise is why the hell for 250 years have veterinary and human medicine diverged? So I set up a charity called the Humanimal Trust - human plus animal because we're all humans and animals and we're all animals ". **Noel Fitzpatrick clarifies that he is not against animal experiments, falsely claims that some animal experimentation is necessary and falsely states that the history of human medical practice shows that animals have been successful predictive models. Mr Fitzpatrick mentions stents, so we'd like Noel Fitzpatrick to read [this peer reviewed paper](#) addressing the animal experimentation community's common, *but false claim*, about stents.**

Radio Interviewer Anton Savage: "You don't see much in the way of dividing line medically between animals and humans"

Noel Fitzpatrick " That's spot on, I see zero dividing line and that's for a few different reasons; the first reason is of course the obvious reason that all medical advance has to happen somehow and the remarkable thing for most people sitting in their bed sit, or their massive opulent castle, is that none of them realise where their knee replacement or their shoulder replacement or their aspirin tablet actually came from. Well it came usually from an experiment on an animal, so that'll be a dog a sheep a goat a pig". **NO! Animal experiments have actually misled human medical research for decades; penicillin was delayed by over decade because it has no effect on a rabbit; insulin was first thought to be a liver disease because of experiments on dogs; for hundreds more examples please visit [our website](#) and the links on page one of this statement.**

Noel Fitzpatrick: "98% of people in the UK don't even question where their tablets come from or where their knee replacement comes from. Do you really think that it suddenly exists? No it does not. It exists because an animal gave their life to make it exist." **Again, this is medically and historically false.**

Noel Fitzpatrick: "My life's goal from now on is to re-converge human and animal medicine. The objective of the charity is to fund ethical and morally well placed research that will help both animals and humans at the same time. That means if you're going to develop a drug, if you're going to develop some stem cells, or if you're going to develop some techniques or some implants that are going to help humans let's do it so that the animals win as well". **We'd like Noel Fitzpatrick to make a new "life's goal" resolution for 2016, to stop his damaging claim that animals and humans are "One" and stop falsely claiming that animals and humans are predictive models of each other.**

Noel Fitzpatrick: "It's a real shame that animals have given their lives to give us the drugs and the implants that we need." **What is actually "a real shame" are the false claims that Mr Fitzpatrick appears to be party to. Animals have *not* helped "give us the drugs we need": current science now proves that animals have in fact misled human medical research for centuries and up-to-date knowledge explains exactly [why this is the case](#).**

Noel Fitzpatrick: "Animals give us so, so much and it's time to give it back". **Animal experiments have in fact harmed and continue to cause - including fatal - harm to human patients. For more information, please visit the links in this statement and [our website](#).**