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Microaspiration of Caco-2 cells in absence of  
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See Kerlata et al. in this issue.

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**Aims and Scope – Protecting More Than Animals**

ALTEX, edited by the Swiss Society ALTEX Edition, is the official journal of CAAT, the Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing at the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, USA, EUSAAT, the European Society for Alternatives to Animal Testing (former MEGAT), t<sup>4</sup>, the transatlantic think tank for toxicology (Baltimore, Utrecht, Konstanz) and the Doerenkamp chairs in Germany, India, The Netherlands, Switzerland and USA. ALTEX is devoted to the publication of research on the development and promotion of alternatives to animal experiments according to the 3R concept of Russell and Burch: Replace, Reduce and Refine.

ALTEX publishes original articles, short communications, and reviews, as well as news and comments, meeting reports and book reviews. Animal experiments are defined by the editors as all experimental procedures involving the use of animals in testing, research and education or to obtain tissues, organs, and other animal derived products that may cause pain or distress to animals.

In addition to covering the biomedical aspects of animal experimentation, ALTEX is devoted to the bioethics of the complex relationship between humans and animals. Articles published in ALTEX should convey a basic respect for the dignity of living creatures and a recognition of animals as our partners. Articles devoted to the social and ethical aspects of this topic will be judged according to stringent scientific standards.

Manuscripts submitted to ALTEX are evaluated by two reviewers. The evaluation takes into account the scientific merit of a manuscript and the contribution to animal welfare and the 3R-principle.

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