

October 8, 2009

Jennifer Chapman
President and Executive Director
Alcor Life Extension Foundation

2 pages via mail and e-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Chapman:

I am writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and our more than 2 million members and supporters to urge Alcor to stop conducting and funding cruel experiments on animals—experiments that the company admits in its *Cryonics* magazine "will not be exactly applicable to human cases."

Alcor's former chief operating officer recently wrote to PETA and described horrific cryonics experiments performed on seemingly conscious animals: "I witnessed [Steve Harris, Alcor's current chief medical advisor] cannulate the animal and then flush the blood out (while the dog whimpered) while infusing some type of 'preservation' chemical. ... I have my doubts that she was completely sedated because of the whimpering. ... [T]he thought of what they did to this animal just turns my stomach. It was cruel and senseless."

On its own Web site, Alcor describes the pain and suffering its most famous canine, Dixie, endured during a procedure that removed all her blood, infused her with a chemical preservative and then cooled her to a few degrees above zero:

"3:44 PM. Washout is complete. She looks utterly dead."

"7:55 PM. Her blood has been replaced, she's rewarming and I'm starting dialysis."

"5:05 AM. Dixie is awake. Lifting her head up, fighting the endotracheal tube. Very restless."

"1:00 PM. ... She exhibits a peculiar 'windmilling' motion with her forelegs. Suddenly, she tenses, the left side of her body goes rigid. Within a second she has a full-fledged grand mal seizure."

"2:50 PM. Another grand mal. This is looking bad. There is clearly some right brain injury. Her left face is slack, though

her left limbs look okay with normal movement and response to pain."

"5:38 PM. Another grand mal, several petit seizures as well. ... Hugh and I head off into town to the Spaghetti Factory. What a relief just to be away for a few hours. Everything is so elegant at the restaurant and all the personnel are so clean cut and attractive. ... Returning from dinner we find Dixie is a real handful -- managing her I.V.'s, keeping her fed, cleaning her up when she urinates or defecates. Every five minutes there's a major task at hand."

"11:26 PM. The primadone isn't working. Seizures, seizures and more seizures. Valium, Valium, and Valium."

"7:17 PM. Dixie's abdomen is distended. Her bowel sounds are diminished."

"12:00 midnight. She wakes me up crying. Belly very distended."

"1:20 AM. She vomited about 150 cc of partially digested food."

"1:36 AM. She's restless and crying again. I decide to pass a stomach tube and suction her. ... She fights me powerfully, but the job gets done."

Municipalities across the country have prohibited cryonics experiments on animals. Alcor notes on its Web site, "Early in 1993 Alcor's animal work [in California] was finally halted by local regulatory restrictions." And in 2003, the Boca Raton, Florida, planning and zoning board voted unanimously 6-0 to deny a request for a cryonics company to conduct animal experiments.

Animals suffer immensely in laboratory experiments like those that have allegedly taken place at Alcor, and because of fundamental differences in biology between species, the results from these studies—as you seemingly already recognize—cannot be applied to humans. In light of the disturbing information above, we urge you to permanently end the use of animals in the development and testing of your technology. You may contact me directly at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]. Thank you, and I look forward to your swift response regarding this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shalin G. Gala", written over a horizontal line.

Shalin G. Gala
Laboratory Methods Specialist
Laboratory Investigations Department