

March 7, 2025

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

My name is Sheila Dooley and I'm a retired Library Director who lives in Mosier, Oregon. I was a patient at OHSU for many years. I no longer go there due to the Primate Research Center. I am one of many Oregonians who was horrified by the treatment of monkeys at the center. This was brought to light by the cage washing incident in which one monkey died and another euthanized after being scalded by the cage washing machine. There was resulting legislation in 2023.

Violations at OHSU have continued in spite of this legislation, which required OHSU to be transparent. This is also a violation of the public trust.

The merger of OHSU with Legacy Health should be approved only if OHSU closes its 5,000 monkey primate research center. This center is truly a waste of taxpayer money and the site of extreme animal abuse as evidenced by the 31 animal welfare violations between 2014 and 2022. OHSU has been cited more times for violating the Animal Welfare Act than any of the other 7 academic animal research centers.

For years the primate research center has used and killed hundreds of non-human primates, including mothers and infants. These experiments purported to study human maternal and child health and nutrition outcomes that could have been ethically and effectively studied in humans.

As a taxpayer, I believe this is a waste of money when more human relevant, non animal testing methods are available. As an example thalidomide tested fine on animals and was a disaster for humans.

Please use your financial resources to focus on patient care, not useless and cruel animal experiments.

OHSU provides cutting edge treatment. Let OHSU and Legacy Health be known for that, not for animal cruelty.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sheila Dooley

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