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Just don't get sick

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Justine McCoy (Voice, 4-5) calls animal research irrelevant and a waste of time and money. I infer that McCoy is blessed with unusually good health and has no need for medications or vaccinations of any sort, as all such medicine has been developed through animal research.

One only hopes that McCoy's run of good health continues, and that McCoy's loved ones will never be in need of treatment for cancer, heart disease, kidney disease, respiratory ailments, diabetes, arthritis, Alzheimer's disease (the list goes on), as these have all grown directly out of animal research.

Diagnosing any medical conditions in the first place would be difficult without X-rays, CAT-scans, blood tests, and the entire array of modern medical diagnostic tools developed through animal research. And hopefully, McCoy has a rugged constitution and a high pain threshold in the unfortunate event that surgery were ever needed. Pre-surgery anesthetics and post-surgery analgesics too were developed from animal research.

To accept the fruits of modern medical science would be to benefit from what McCoy calls "the barbaric and unnecessary practice of animal experimentation," and must surely be resisted by those who oppose all animal research.

Tim Hackenberg
Gainesville

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