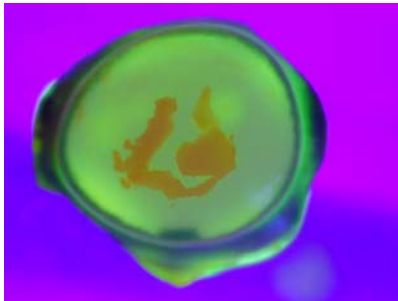




## **ROBatt – Replacement Ocular Battery**



In keeping with our development and research goals, MB Research announces that it has submitted a Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) grant to develop and validate a tiered-testing strategy that is aimed at replacing the Draize Rabbit Eye Test.

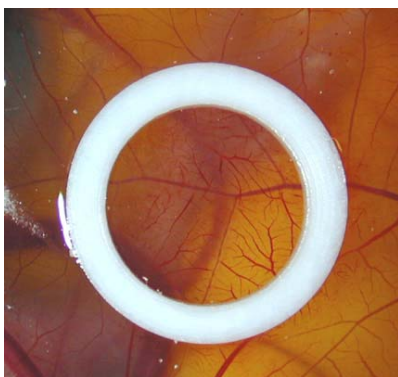


This project uses existing alternative assays such as the **Bovine Cornea Opacity/Permeability (BCOP)** test, the **Chorioallantoic Membrane Vascular Assay (CAMVA)**, the **Porcine Cornea Opacity/Reversibility Assay (PorCORA)** and the newly developed assay – **Porcine Confocal Assay (PorFocal)** to create a battery of assays which could replace the need for rabbits in ocular irritation testing.

The ROBatt is designed to screening test substances ranging from non-irritating to severe ocular irritation and even ocular corrosivity.



Ocular irritation testing is extremely relevant to assuring adequate safety levels of public health as new formulations of chemicals and products are being introduced. In most cases, these safety assessments are performed using the Draize Rabbit Eye test, resulting in thousands of rabbits used in testing every year. Alternatives to the Draize test have been discussed since the early 80s without any appreciable acceptance from the regulatory community until recently, but only for severe irritants and ocular corrosives.



Plans include assaying known ocular irritants ranging from non- and slightly irritating substances to severe irritants and ocular corrosives, using a tiered testing strategy and standard alternative protocols. Data will be compared to existing information available on the test substances and results will be presented to ICCVAM and ECVAM for consideration as a standalone alternative to the Draize Rabbit Eye Test.

**For more information about ROBatt and our other alternative assays, stop by Booth #2863 at SOT or visit <http://www.mbresearch.com/>.**

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