Recommendations for the Ethical Committee:

Evaluating vehicles for administration of experimental agents to laboratory animals

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- **The vehicle (solvent or suspending agent) of each solution given to animals, regardless of the route of administration, MUST be listed in the ethical application.**
- Where possible, compounds should be administered in an aqueous solution (sterile water for injections, 0.9% saline or 5% dextrose/saline) that is as close to physiological pH as possible.
- The following recommendations apply to systemic administration:
  - **If organic solvents** (like dimethylsulphoxide, DMSO) are necessary, these should not exceed 5 ml/kg or 10% of the injected volume.
  - **Detergents** (such as Tween), solubilisers or emulsifiers should not exceed 20% of the injected volume.
  - **Cyclodextrins** should not exceed 2 ml/kg or 45% of the injected volume. **Were used at >20% of the injected volume, animals need to be rehydrated within 2–4 h.**
  - Suspensions given IV have to be free of particulates.
- **Different recommendations apply to topical administration, including intranasal, ocular and ICV.**
- **For any question, you can contact me at sarae@ekmd.huji.ac.il or 050-456-3445.**

**References**