

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Americans for Medical Progress Honors the Animals Behind the COVID-19 Vaccines and Treatments

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Americans for Medical Progress, a nonprofit organization that supports the advancement of human and animal medicine through responsible and highly-regulated animal research, has released a series of posters to recognize the unsung heroes behind the COVID-19 vaccines and treatments.

According to a [recently released statistical analysis](#), coronavirus vaccination is estimated to have saved approximately 140,000 American lives between the time the vaccines were initially made available for use and May 9, 2021.

“The COVID-19 vaccines are perhaps the biggest medical breakthroughs of our lifetimes. However, despite the huge impact that coronavirus has had on all of us, many Americans are likely not fully aware of how these vaccines came to be,” said Paula Clifford, Executive Director of Americans for Medical Progress. “That’s why we decided to release a series of posters to highlight the critical role of animal studies in making these lifesaving interventions available.”

AMP’s poster series honors the following four animal species:

Mice

Studies in mice in the 1990s led to the revolutionary new mRNA vaccine platform, a technology used in the Moderna and Pfizer shots. These rodent research partners also helped ensure the safety and effectiveness of the COVID-19 vaccines.

Nonhuman Primates (Monkeys)

Research in nonhuman primates led to safe and effective coronavirus vaccines. Studies in monkeys also showed how the virus impacts the body, inspiring researchers to develop new treatment options.

Ferrets

Research in ferrets helped identify how COVID-19 is transmitted. These animals also assisted in pinpointing how SARS-CoV-2 attacks the body and explained specifically why some coronavirus infections can be fatal, opening up new treatment options.

Hamsters

Research in hamsters revealed how coronavirus spreads and impacts the body, arming scientists with valuable data to fight the disease. They're also helping us develop antiviral drugs to treat and save people who become seriously ill with COVID-19.

Individual posters or the entire poster series can be ordered or printed at the AMP website: www.amprogress.org.

Visuals: Images of the four posters can be found at this link: <https://www.amprogress.org/resources/advocacy-materials/>

About Americans for Medical Progress

[Americans for Medical Progress](http://www.amprogress.org) (AMP) is a nonprofit, health research advocacy group that supports the advancement of human and animal medicine through responsible and highly regulated research in animals. AMP informs the public about animal-based research through outreach events like [Biomedical Research Awareness Day](#), news and opinion articles, social media interactions and various online and printed publications. AMP is a 501(c)3 nonprofit charity supported by the nation's top universities, private research facilities, research-related businesses, scientific and professional societies, as well as by foundation grants and contributions by individuals. AMP's Board of Directors is composed of physicians, researchers, veterinarians and university officials.

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