

1. Introduction

In the future, I want to be a medical researcher or a doctor, so I thought that I would like to do research on a medical topic. I am most interested in stem cells research; especially iPS cells research and I decided to do research public opinion about medical research and stem cells research. These techniques are good for healthcare because it can help cure diseases. However, they also have some bad points, so I did research to learn public opinion.

2. Discussions between the organization of animal welfare and medical researchers

Whether animal testing should be banned has been discussed many times. Which should take priority, people's health or the lives of animals? While people's lives are saved, animals are suffering from the research. However, the people who oppose animal testing for medical purposes are also saved. In addition, animal testing for medical purposes helps researchers find solutions to serious diseases. The president of the Organization of Animal Welfare said, animal testing is not helpful because animals and humans are different. Even if they

had success in animal testing, they may have difficulty when they test with humans. We can put animal testing into other ways. Other ways is, for example, calculating cells in test tubes. On the other hand, the researcher at the Milano University said, animal testing is absolutely necessary. No one uses animals without feeling very sorry. We cannot do research without animal testing because it is the best way. And we cannot test with humans immediately because it is too dangerous.

3. Method

Before leaving for Cambridge, I made a list of questions and asked them over the course of two days in Cambridge. I asked the people in Cambridge City four questions to learn what people thought of medical research at Trinity Hall, Cambridge.

The four questions are:

1. Are you for or against animal testing for medical purposes and why?
2. If against, do you think animal testing should be banned and why?
3. Do you support the use of human embryos for medical purposes and why?
4. Do you support stem cells research and why?

I asked forty people including supervisors, students at Cambridge University, professors, overseas students. At the time of the interviews, most of the students and the professors

were on the summer vacation or working on research, so it was difficult to look for people who were able to answer my questions. These are some of the places where I interviewed people. Cambridge University consists of 31 colleges. The famous are Trinity College and King's College.



This is Trinity Hall.

<https://www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/prospective-student...>



This is the garden of Trinity Hall.

<https://www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/>

4. Hypothesis

Before going to Cambridge University, I made a hypothesis about the results of my research, as follows:

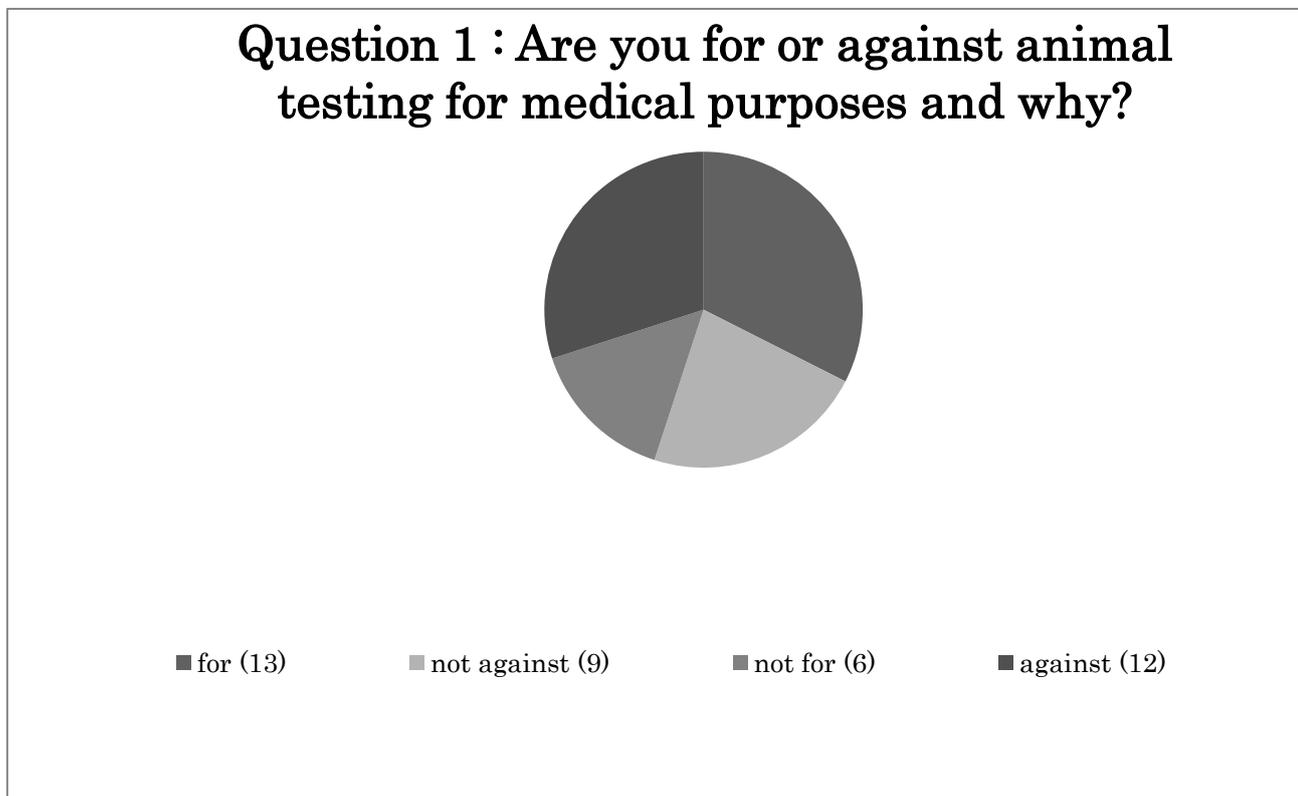
Question 1, because of the health benefit of the research, I think more than half will answer I am for.

Question 2, I think most of them will answer yes. It is because animal testing is bad and they feel sorry for animals.

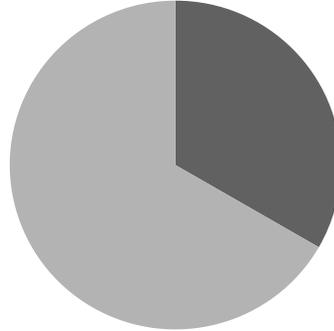
Question 3, I think almost all will answer no, because they regard human embryos as humans.

To the fourth question, most of them will answer yes. Because stem cells research is good for us and our health.

5. Results



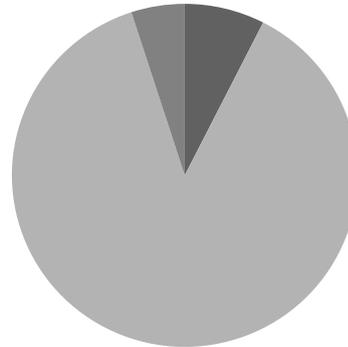
Question 2 : If against, do you think animal testing should be banned and why?



■ Yes (6)

■ No (12)

Question 3: Do you support the use of human embryos for medical research and why?

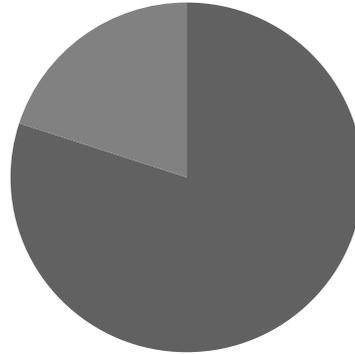


■ Yes (3)

■ No (35)

■ other (2)

Question 4 : Do you support stem cells research and why?



■ Yes (32)

■ No (0)

■ other (8)

The main reasons for the answers are as follows:

Question 1, Are you for or against animal testing for medical purposes and why?

For or not against: no other way, benefit for us, necessary, and so on.

Against or not for: not necessary, not good, and so on.

Question 2, If against, do you think animal testing should be banned and why?

Yes: good for the animal, not good, and so on..

No: maybe difficult, benefit for human, no other way, and so on.

Question 3, Do you support the use of human embryos for medical purposes and why?

Yes: one life for many lives, maybe necessary, and so on.

No: it's human, waste one life, ethical problem, and so on.

Question 4, Do you support stem cells research and why?

Yes: good for our health, no use of human embryos, and so on.

6. Discussion and Conclusion

From the results of the first and second questions, I can say that more than half of people interviewed support animal testing and most people think animal testing is necessary for humans, even if it can be harmful to animals.

From the results of the third question, I can say most people do not support medical research using human embryos and can know most people regard human embryos as humans.

From the results of the fourth question, I can say that all people, except for people who do not have knowledge of stem cells research, support it and know how good for medicine it is.

On the whole, people tend to support research which does not use human life and has benefits even if it's not good for animals. I am happy to know that most people support this kind of medical research and do not support research that uses human embryos.

I could learn public opinion about medical research

through this research. I hope that medical research continues to develop and has a positive influence on everybody's health.

08/10/2017