Should animals be used for drug testing?

Scientists have been using animals to research drugs and also medical research. Animals like rats, mice and rabbits have helped human life a lot. I believe that it is inhuman to hurt and degrade the life of animals but on the other hand, if we stop using animals for drug testing, we would not be able to develop new medicines for certain diseases.

Yes, it is wrong to harm animals just because they cannot speak but I do not think we have a choice. If we can kill and an animal to benefit one human being, we can also experiment on a few animals for the larger good. Experimenting on animals will not kill them, however they may experience pain. Maybe some animals will benefit out of this testing, this way the lives of other animals and not only humans can also be saved. We can reduce the number of animals being experimented and the pain experienced by the animal by improving the techniques used. Researchers should share the information with other researchers so that the same experiment is not conducted again and again. We can improve the way the animals are cared for in the laboratory, this will reduce the stress experienced by the animal. We can use advanced medical techniques and improve the living condition of the animals. We can also replace the animals with certain alternatives if possible such as cell culture in which cells are grown under controlled conditions, generally they are not grown in their natural environment. Some other alternatives are computer modeling and human volunteers for drug testing instead of animals. Cure of some diseases involve very complex procedures that can only be studied on a whole living animal. Also, under the law, all drugs have to be tested o animals before they can be used by us. According to me, for diseases in which there are alternatives options, animals should not be used. Mice are used for research because humans and mice share many common genetic features. Not just any animal is picked up and experimented on, guinea pigs, rats, rabbits and mice are some of the animals, which are experimented on.

According to me, if certain measures are taken to reduce the pain experienced by the animal and if there is no other alternative, animals have to be used for testing drugs and in medical research.