



Closing the Gap:

A Virtual Briefing on Establishing Federal Research Protections for Cephalopods

Friday, Sept. 23, 2022

1-2 p.m. ET

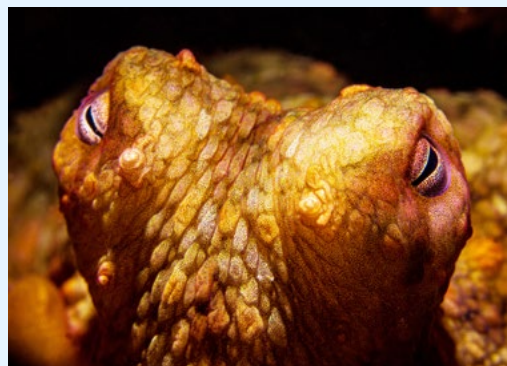
[Registration is required for this Zoom event. Please register here.](#)

It is time to close the gap that allows researchers to experiment on cephalopods without federal oversight.

Cephalopods are a class of marine invertebrates including squids, octopuses, cuttlefish, and nautilus. There is a wealth of evidence showing that cephalopods are highly intelligent, with complex nervous systems rivaling those of some mammals, and capable of experiencing pain and distress. These delicate animals require specialized care and handling to maintain their well-being in a captive setting. However, because they are invertebrates, cephalopods are excluded from federal policies regulating the care and use of laboratory animals. Despite the lack of baseline standards of care, their use in research is increasing.

The need is clear and more urgent than ever: Federal research agencies must enact policies to provide cephalopods with basic welfare protections that are afforded to vertebrate animals in laboratories.

Join us at this virtual briefing to learn more about the unique and incredible qualities of cephalopods, the immediate actions federal research agencies must take to regulate their care and use, and how Congress can support this effort.



Featuring:

Catharine E. Krebs, PhD, Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine

Katherine Meyer, Director, Harvard Animal Law & Policy Clinic

Jennifer Mather, PhD, Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Lethbridge

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