Responsible Innovation

Innovation is fundamental to Unilever’s business success and a core part of our global strategy. The integrity and objectivity of our Science are a key foundation for our approach to responsible innovation. Safety is non-negotiable.

Unilever conducts responsible, safe and sustainable research and innovation, which fully respects the concerns of our consumers and society. In meeting consumer needs, Unilever’s innovations are based on sound science and technology, and reflect high standards and ethical principles.

Unilever has global standards that apply to all research and innovation, including:
- the safe and sustainable design of new products, processes and packaging;
- product and brand development;
- open innovation collaborations; and
- publication of our scientific research.

**Musts**

All employees involved in scientific research and innovation activity must comply with all standards relevant to their area of work, notably in order to:

- Ensure that risks for consumer safety, occupational safety and the environment are suitably assessed and managed
- Ensure appropriate specifications of raw materials, products and packaging
- Ensure effective management of consumer safety risks from food allergens
- Ensure research on human subjects is conducted to the highest ethical standards
- Uphold Unilever’s commitment to eliminate animal testing without compromising on consumer safety (see Developing Alternative Approaches to Animal Testing)
- Ensure the integrity, robustness, objectivity and transparency of all scientific research and collaborations with external partners (see Unilever’s Position on Science with Objectivity and Integrity)
- Maintain and make accessible records of all research, including study protocols and data, and their interpretation and decisions made
- Raise any concerns about actual or potential non-compliance with this Code Policy with their Business Integrity Officer, Line Manager or their relevant Business Partner in R&D

**Must nots**

Employees must not:

- Deliver presentations or publications that have not been approved via internal clearance procedures
- Collaborate with third parties outside a structured and approved contractual framework

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