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# Charge to the Task Force

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The members of the task groups were asked to review all the relevant literature in their area of expertise and to develop a report using the following questions as a guide.

## **Section I. Animal Models Presently Used in Diabetes Mellitus Research**

Which animal models—naturally occurring or induced—are presently used in diabetes mellitus (DM) research? (Include identification, description, status of characterization, sources, and availability)

## **Section II. Research Questions to be Pursued Using Animal Models**

- Are there existing animals that appear more appropriate for studying DM and its complications?
- Have these animals been adequately characterized? If not, what additional studies are needed?
- Which animals are readily available for research?
- Are there existing animal models that may appear appropriate for DM research but have not been previously evaluated for DM?
- How can animal models for other diseases, such as those with hypertension and atherosclerosis, be appropriately used for DM research?
- Are additional animal models needed? If so, what characteristics should a new animal model possess? What research questions would be appropriately pursued using this new animal model?
- Evaluate past research done in existing animal models (appropriate animal model versus appropriate questions).
- What research questions can be appropriately answered using existing animal models?
- Which research problems in DM do not require the use of animal models because they cannot be adequately studied in animals?