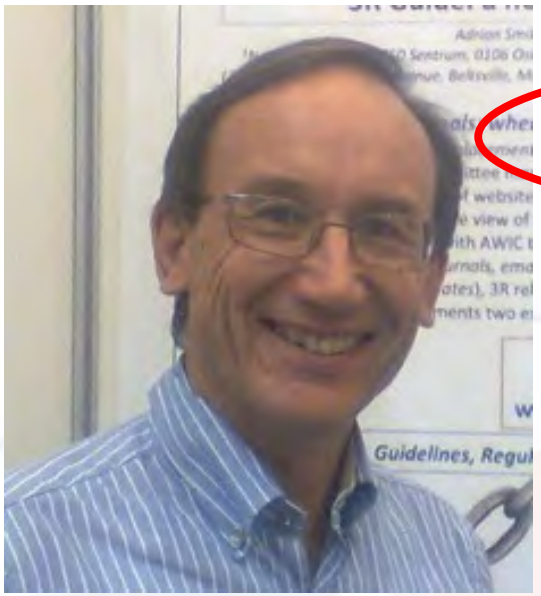
PREPARE before you ARRIVE:

Good reporting relies on good planning



norecopa.no/ESLAV2019

Adrian Smith
adrian.smith@norecopa.no

norecopa

https://norecopa.no

Norecopa

Norway's National Consensus Platform for the

Three Rs: Replacement, Reduction and Refinement

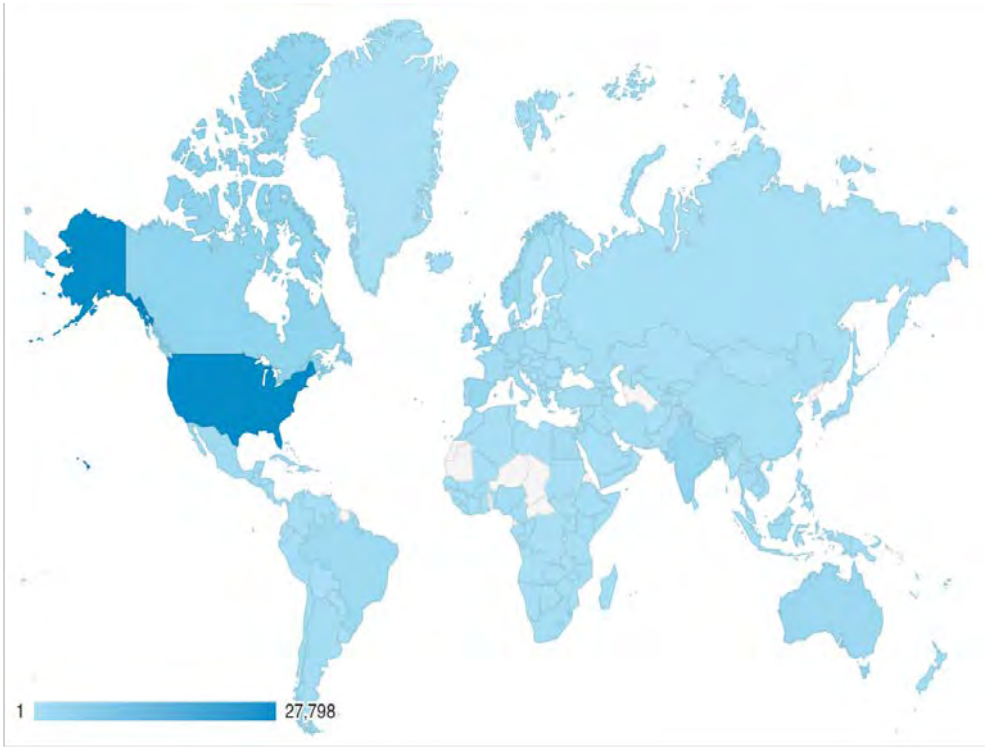
and a source of global 3R resources

https://norecopa.no

norecopa.no

Video presentation of contents:
norecopa.no/info

8,400 webpages
80,000 links



1. United States
2. United Kingdom
3. Canada
4. India
5. Spain
6. Norway
7. Australia
8. Brazil
9. Germany
10. Mexico

Averaging about 250,000 page views a year

International consensus meetings

Harmonisation of the Care and Use of:

- *Fish (2005)*
- *Wildlife (2008)*
- *Fish (2009)*
- *Agricultural animals (2012)*
- *Wildlife (2017)*

https://norecopa.no/meetings

All presentations and consensus statements are on the internet: ***a lasting resource***

Working Party Report

Guidance on the severity classification of scientific procedures involving fish: report of a Working Group appointed by the Norwegian Consensus-Platform for the Replacement, Reduction and Refinement of animal experiments (Norecopa)

P Hawkins (Convenor)[1], N Dennison[2], G Goodman[3], S Hetherington[4], S Llywelyn-Jones[5], K Ryder[2] and A J Smith[6]

[1]Research Animals Department, RSPCA, Wilberforce Way, Southwater, West Sussex RH13 9RS, UK; [2]Animals (Scientific Procedures) Inspectorate, Home Office, PO Box 6779, Dundee DD1 9WW, UK; [3]Biological Services, The University of Edinburgh, Chancellor Building, 49, Little France Crescent, Edinburgh EH16 4SB, UK; [4]CEMS, Pickfield Road, Lowestoft, NR33 0HT, UK; [5]King's College London, Biological Services Unit, 4th floor, Hodgkin Building, Guy's Campus, London SE1 1UL, UK; [6]Norecopa, c/o Norwegian Veterinary Institute, PO Box 750 Sentrum, N-0130 Oslo, Norway
Corresponding author: P Hawkins. Email: phawkins@rspca.org.uk

Abstract

The severity classification of procedures using animals is an important tool to help to cut the implementation of refinement and to assist in reporting the application of the 3Rs (replacement, reduction and refinement). The recently revised Directive that regulates animal research and testing within the European Union requires Member States to ensure that *all* procedures are classified as 'non-recovery', 'mild', 'moderate' or 'severe', using assignment criteria set out by the European Commission (EC). However, these are focused upon terrestrial species, so are of limited relevance to fish users. A Working Group set up by the Norwegian Consensus-Platform for the 3Rs (Norecopa) has produced guidance on the classification of severity in scientific procedures involving fish, including examples of 'subthreshold', 'mild', 'moderate', 'severe' and 'upper threshold' procedures. The aims are to complement the EC guidelines and help to ensure that suffering in fish is effectively predicted and minimized. Norecopa has established a website (www.norecopa.no/categories) where more information on severity classification for procedures using fish, including field research, will be made available.

Keywords: Fish, harm–benefit assessment, humane endpoints, refinement, severity

Laboratory Animals 2011; 1–6. DOI: 10.1258/la.2011.010181

Background

An effective prediction of the effects of a research protocol on the animals concerned helps to ensure that any pain, suffering or distress they may experience will be effectively anticipated, recognized and alleviated. This is essential not only for animal welfare but also for scientific validity, because physiological and behavioural responses to suffering can significantly affect data quality. Severity classification is thus an important tool to help foster the implementation of refinement, including monitoring its progress, and to assist in reporting the application of the 3Rs (replacement, reduction and refinement) of Russell and Burch,[1] which is now an integral part of the legislation on animal research and testing in many countries. Predictions of severity are also fundamental to the harm–benefit assessments undertaken by bodies such as regulatory authorities and ethical committees when deciding whether or not a project should be licensed or funded.

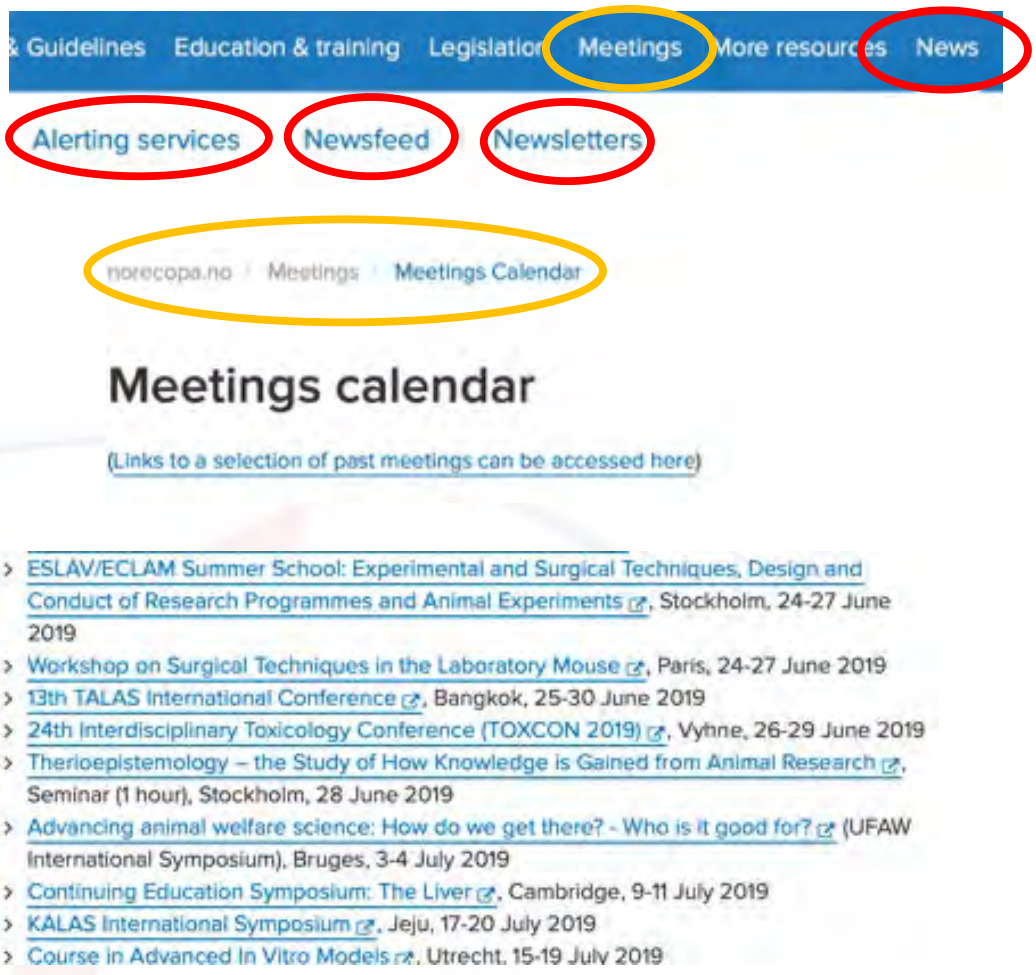
There may also be a legal requirement to predict and classify severity. For example, the new Directive regulating animal use within the European Union, which must be implemented within all Member States by January 2013, requires the severity of each procedure to be classified on the basis of the 'degree of pain, suffering, distress or lasting harm expected to be experienced by an individual animal during the course of the procedure', with the aim of enhancing transparency, facilitating the project authorization process and providing tools for monitoring compliance.[2] Member States will have to ensure that all procedures are classified as 'non-recovery', 'mild', 'moderate' or 'severe' on a case-by-case basis, using the assignment

Guidance on the severity classification of procedures involving fish

Report from a Working Group
convened by Norecopa

P Hawkins, N Dennison, G Goodman, S Hetherington,
S Llywelyn-Jones, K Ryder and AJ Smith

Laboratory Animals, 45: 219-224, 2011
norecopa.no/categories


Guidelines
Education & training
Legislatio
Meetings
More resources
News
Alerting services
Newsfeed
Newsletters
norecopa.no / Meetings / Meetings Calendar
Meetings calendar
(Links to a selection of past meetings can be accessed here)
ESLAV/ECLAM Summer School: Experimental and Surgical Techniques, Design and Conduct of Research Programmes and Animal Experiments, Stockholm, 24-27 June 2019
Workshop on Surgical Techniques in the Laboratory Mouse, Paris, 24-27 June 2019
13th TALAS International Conference, Bangkok, 25-30 June 2019
24th Interdisciplinary Toxicology Conference (TOXCON 2019), Vyhne, 26-29 June 2019
Therioepistemology – the Study of How Knowledge is Gained from Animal Research, Seminar (1 hour), Stockholm, 28 June 2019
Advancing animal welfare science: How do we get there? - Who is it good for? (UFAW International Symposium), Bruges, 3-4 July 2019
Continuing Education Symposium: The Liver, Cambridge, 9-11 July 2019
KALAS International Symposium, Jeju, 17-20 July 2019
Course in Advanced In Vitro Models, Utrecht, 15-19 July 2019

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Scientists are becoming increasingly concerned about the validity of animal experiments

NATURE | NEWS

Swiss survey highlights potential flaws in animal studies

Poor experimental design and statistical analysis could contribute to widespread problems in reproducing preclinical animal experiments.

Pain management in pigs undergoing experimental surgery; a literature review (2012–4)

A. G. Bradbury, M. Eddleston, R. E. Clutton

Br J Anaesth (2016) 116 (1): 37-45. **DOI:** https://doi.org/10.1093/bja/aev301
Published: 03 October 2015

selection criteria. Most articles (193/233, 83%) described use of drugs with analgesic properties, but only 87/233 (37%) described postoperative analgesia. No article provided justification for the analgesic chosen, despite the lack of guidelines for analgesia in porcine surgical models and the lack of formal studies on this subject. Postoperative pain assessment was reported in only 23/233 (10%) articles. It was found that the reporting of postoperative pain management in the studies was remarkably low, reflecting either under-reporting or under-use. Analgesic description, when given, was frequently too limited to enable reproducibility. Development of a

NATURE | NEWS FEATURE

1,500 scientists lift the lid on reproducibility

Survey sheds light on the 'crisis' rocking research.

Monya Baker

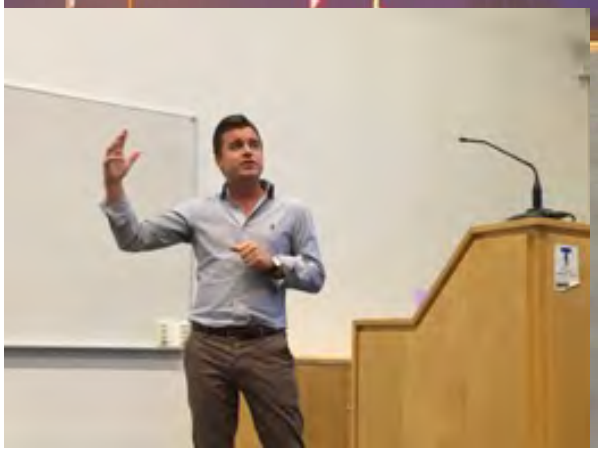
25 May 2016 | Corrected: 28 July 2016

More than 70% of researchers have tried and failed to reproduce another scientist's experiments, and more than half have failed to reproduce their own experiments. Those are some of the telling figures that emerged from *Nature*'s survey of 1,576 researchers who took a brief online questionnaire on reproducibility in research.

How do they do it?

https://www.meonuk.com/runway-markings-explained

Aviation and Animal Research: Human Factors



A Pilot's Perspective

By Jake Hannabuss

Accident Rate for commercial flights is one fatal accident per 16 million flights

Tools – Crew Briefing

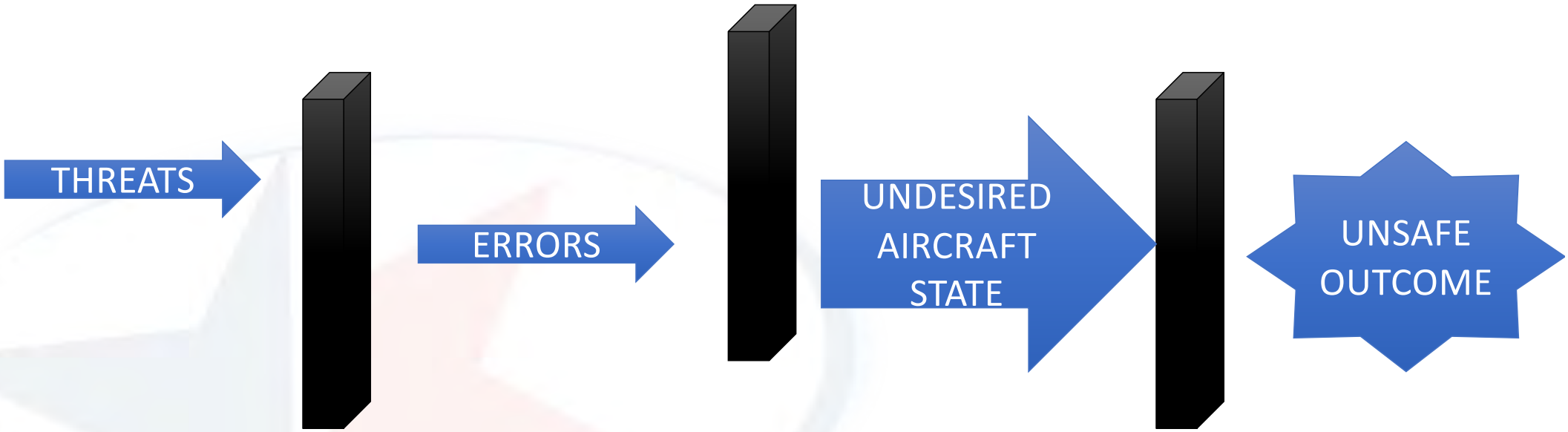
- Division of **Responsibilities**
- Planned **Sequence of Events**, including **deviations from normal procedures**
- The **Routine Factors** to be considered
- Actions in the event of an **emergency**
- **Special considerations**, weather, terrain, abnormalities
- Pre take-off and pre-landing **briefings**

Checklists

- Reduce risk of **forgetting** to carry out vital actions
- Ensure checks are carried out in the **correct sequence**
- Encourage **cooperation** and **cross-checking** between crew members

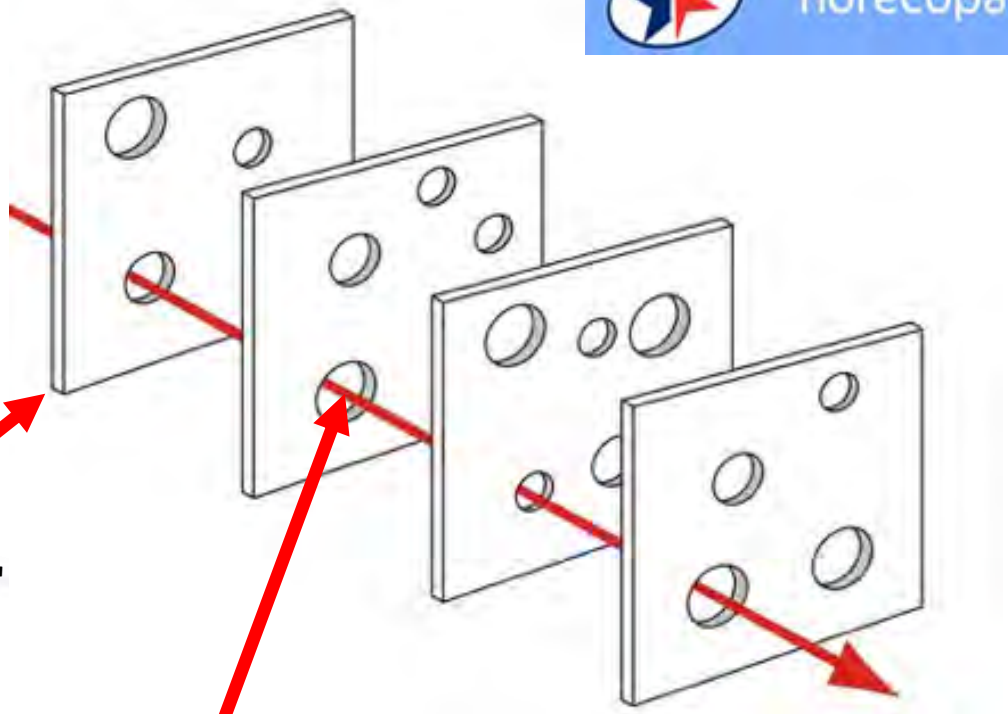
10-15 checklists on short European flights

- Threat and Error Management (TEM)
- Identifies a ***chain***, which precedes all ***unsafe outcomes:***



https://airfactsjournal.com/2012/10/threat-and-error-management-a-primer

eaugallecheese.com/Swiss-Cheese



"Layer of defence"
or redundancy

Weakness / hazard

Loss

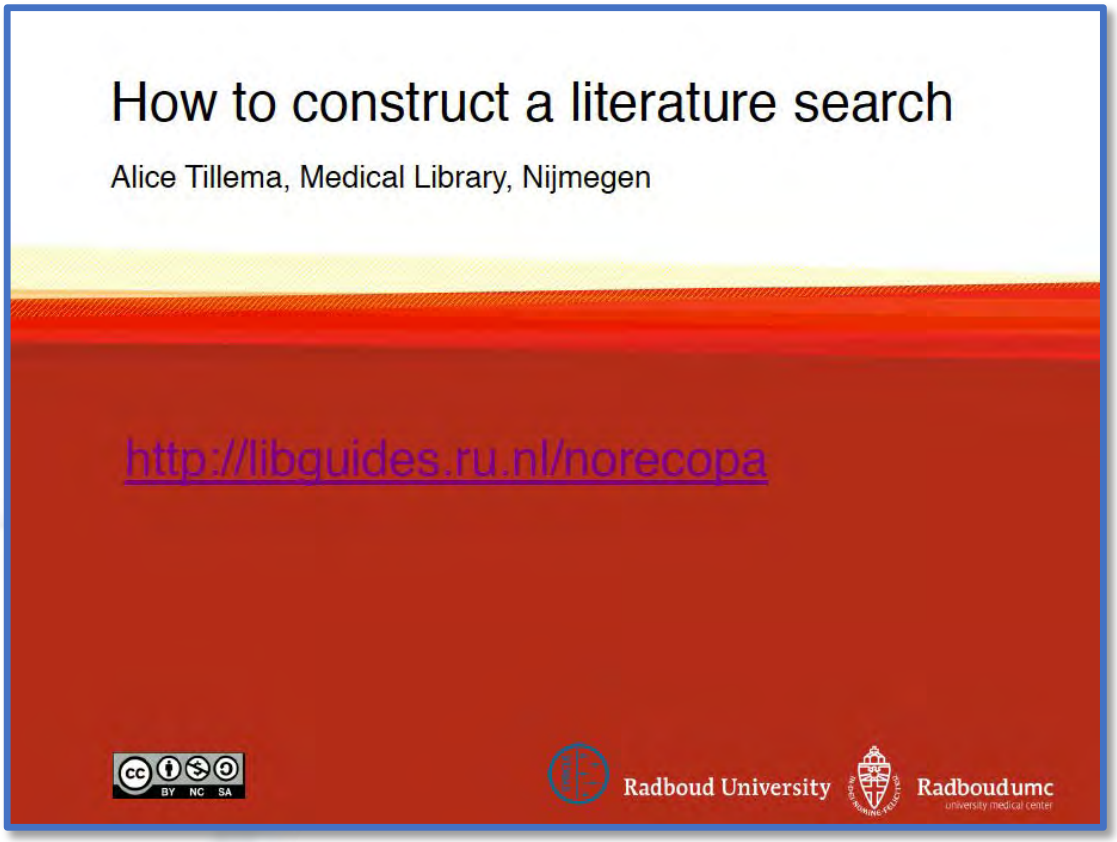
wikipedia.org/wiki/Swiss_cheese_model


SAS

*How do **we** do it...?*

Some examples...

Literature searching is so much more than Systematic Reviews...



norecopa.no/more-resources/literature-searches-and-systematic-reviews

Identification and elimination of contingent suffering

animalcaresystems.com

(not just the direct suffering caused by the procedure)

Fear, boredom and discomfort

Caused by, for example:

Transport, or changes in housing, husbandry and social groups

Single-housed male mice show symptoms of what in humans would be characterised as depression

http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0111065

photo: colourbox.com

Stress caused by capture and handling

https://www.nc3rs.org.uk/how-to-pick-up-a-mouse

Stress caused by capture and handling

https://norecopa.no/scruff

Artefacts caused by poor administration techniques

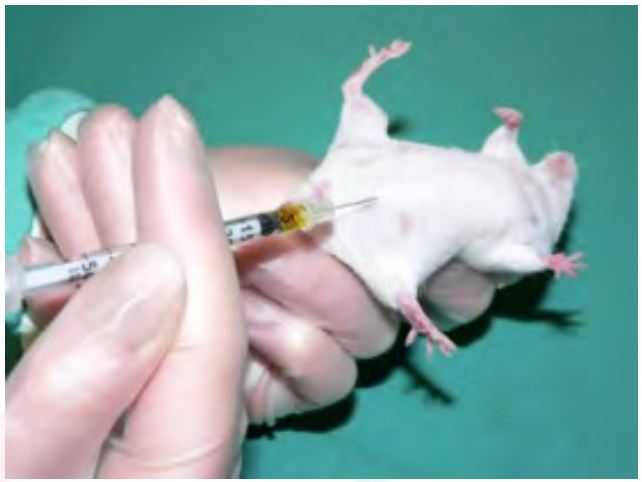
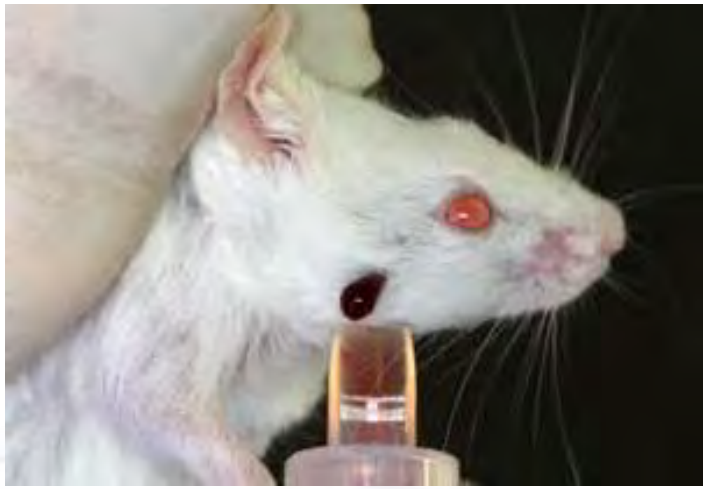


Photo: NMBU

- *Are you sure that your injection ends up in the same place each time?*
- *Are the injections painful?*
- *Are they realistic? (intramuscular injections in small animals)*

'Simple' blood sampling techniques?



medipoint.com/html/for_use_on_mice.html

The best blood sampling techniques are those where you can:

- ✓ see the blood vessel
- ✓ regulate the amount of blood you remove
- ✓ stop the bleeding easily and
- ✓ not damage the surrounding tissue

Carol M. Newton (1925-2014)

National Library of Medicine

The three S's

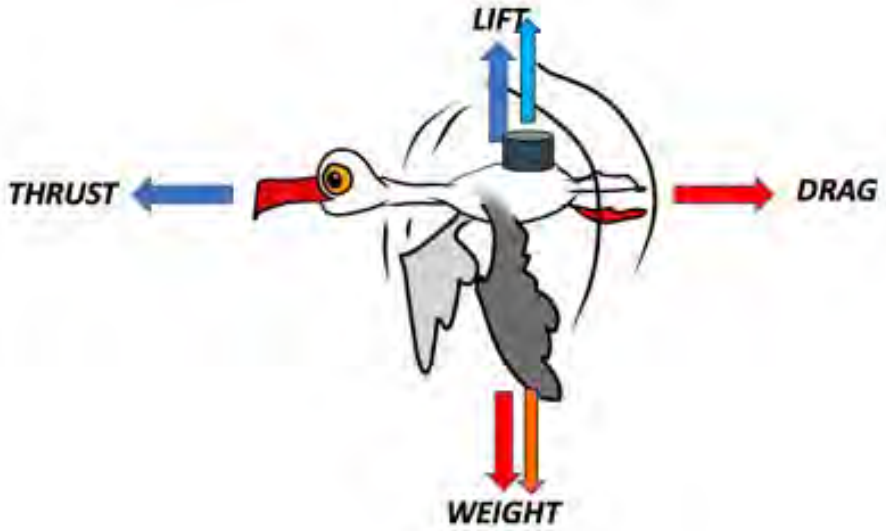
- *Good Science*
- *Good Sense*
- *Good Sensibilities*

norecopa.no/3S

Carol M Newton, quoted in Rowsell HC (1977): The Ethics of Biomedical Experimentation in The Future of Animals, Cells, Models, and Systems in Research, Development, Education, and Testing pp. 267-281, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C., ISBN 0-309-02603-2.

Primary effects

The increased lift balances the extra force from the tag weight



From Rory Wilson: norecopa.no/media/8018/rory-wilson.pdf

Drag occurs in water as well as in the air...

From Rory Wilson: norecopa.no/media/8018/rory-wilson.pdf

Too late to read the checklists when you have arrived!

colourbox.com

Hurni 1969

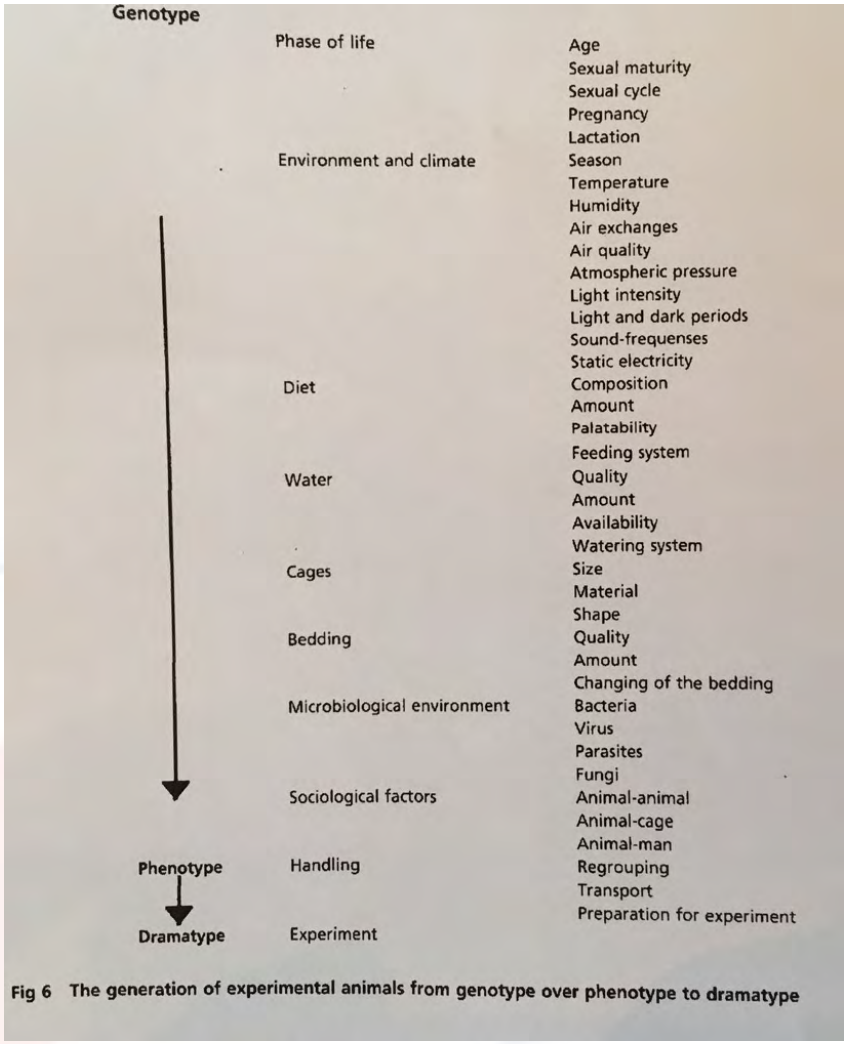


Fig 6 The generation of experimental animals from genotype over phenotype to dramatype

There are many guidelines for *reporting* animal studies

- Öbrink & Waller, 1996
- Reporting animal use in scientific papers (Jane Smith *et al.)*, 1997
- Öbrink & Rehbinder: Animal definition: a necessity for the validity of animal experiments? *Laboratory Animals,* 2000
- Guidelines for reporting the results of experiments on fish (2000)
- ARRIVE Guidelines, 2010 (Kilkenny *et al.*, NC3Rs)
- Gold Standard Publication Checklist, 2010 (SYRCLE)
- Institute for Laboratory Animal Research, NRC, 2011
- Instructions to authors, in many journals

  e.g. Nature's Reporting Checklist

The ARRIVE Guidelines

	ITEM	RECOMMENDATION
Title	1	Provide as accurate and concise a description of the content of the article as possible.
Abstract	2	Provide an accurate summary of the background, research objectives, including details of the species or strain of animal used, key methods, principal findings and conclusions of the study.
INTRODUCTION		
Background	3	a. Include sufficient scientific background (including relevant references to previous work) to understand the motivation and context for the study, and explain the experimental approach and rationale. b. Explain how and why the animal species and model being used can address the scientific objectives and, where appropriate, the study's relevance to human biology.
Objectives	4	Clearly describe the primary and any secondary objectives of the study, or specific hypotheses being tested.
METHODS		
Ethical statement	5	Indicate the nature of the ethical review permissions, relevant licences (e.g. Animal [Scientific Procedures] Act 1986), and national or institutional guidelines for the care and use of animals, that cover the research.
Study design	6	For each experiment, give brief details of the study design including: a. The number of experimental and control groups. b. Any steps taken to minimise the effects of subjective bias, when allocating animals to treatment (e.g. randomisation procedure) and when assessing results (e.g. if done, describe who was blinded and when). c. The experimental unit (e.g. a single animal, group or cage of animals). A time-line diagram or flow chart can be useful to illustrate how complex study designs were carried out.
Experimental procedures	7	For each experiment and each experimental group, including controls, provide precise details of all procedures carried out. For example: a. How (e.g. drug formulation and dose, site and route of administration, anaesthesia and analgesia used [including monitoring], surgical procedure, method of euthanasia). Provide details of any specialist equipment used, including supplier(s). b. When (e.g. time of day). c. Where (e.g. home cage, laboratory, water maze). d. Why (e.g. rationale for choice of specific anaesthetic, route of administration, drug dose used).
Experimental animals	8	a. Provide details of the animals used, including species, strain, sex, developmental stage (e.g. mean or median age plus age range) and weight (e.g. mean or median weight plus weight range). b. Provide further relevant information such as the source of animals, international strain nomenclature, genetic modification status (e.g. knock-out or transgenic), genotype, health/immune status, drug or test naïve, previous procedures, etc.
Housing and husbandry	9	Provide details of: a. Housing (type of facility e.g. specific pathogen free (SPF); type of cage or housing; bedding material; number of cage companions; tank shape and material etc. for fish). b. Husbandry conditions (e.g. breeding programme, light/dark cycle, temperature, quality of water etc for fish, type of food, access to food and water, environmental enrichment). c. Welfare-related assessments and interventions that were carried out prior to, during, or after the experiment.
Sample size	10	a. Specify the total number of animals used in each experiment, and the number of animals in each experimental group. b. Explain how the number of animals was arrived at. Provide details of any sample size calculation used. c. Indicate the number of independent replications of each experiment, if relevant.
Allocating animals to experimental groups	11	a. Give full details of how animals were allocated to experimental groups, including randomisation or matching if done. b. Describe the order in which the animals in the different experimental groups were treated and assessed.
Experimental outcomes	12	Clearly define the primary and secondary experimental outcomes assessed (e.g. cell death, molecular markers, behavioural changes).
Statistical methods	13	a. Provide details of the statistical methods used for each analysis. b. Specify the unit of analysis for each dataset (e.g. single animal, group of animals, single neuron). c. Describe any methods used to assess whether the data met the assumptions of the statistical approach.
RESULTS		
Baseline data	14	For each experimental group, report relevant characteristics and health status of animals (e.g. weight, microbiological status, and drug or test naïve) prior to treatment or testing (this information can often be tabulated).
Numbers analysed	15	a. Report the number of animals in each group included in each analysis. Report absolute numbers (e.g. 10/20, not 50%[2]). b. If any animals or data were not included in the analysis, explain why.
Outcomes and estimation	16	Report the results for each analysis carried out, with a measure of precision (e.g. standard error or confidence interval).
Adverse events	17	a. Give details of all important adverse events in each experimental group. b. Describe any modifications to the experimental protocols made to reduce adverse events.
DISCUSSION		
Interpretation/ scientific implications	18	a. Interpret the results, taking into account the study objectives and hypotheses, current theory and other relevant studies in the literature. b. Comment on the study limitations including any potential sources of bias, any limitations of the animal model, and the imprecision associated with the results[2]. c. Describe any implications of your experimental methods or findings for the [illegible]an (the 3Rs) of the use of animals in research. [illegible] findings of this study are likely to translate to [illegible] any relevance to human biology.
		[illegible]rant number) and the role of the funder(s)

ARRIVE The ARRIVE Gu… Experiments. Or…

https://www.nc3rs.org.uk/arrive-guidelines

The ARRIVE guidelines

The ARRIVE guidelines claim that they 'provide a logical checklist with all the things that need to be considered when designing an experiment'.

In our experience when planning animal research, **a number of additional points need to be addressed at the planning stage**.

These items **improve**

- **study quality**
- **animal welfare**
- and therefore **reproducibility**

- and also the **safety of humans and animals** affected directly or indirectly by the work

norecopa

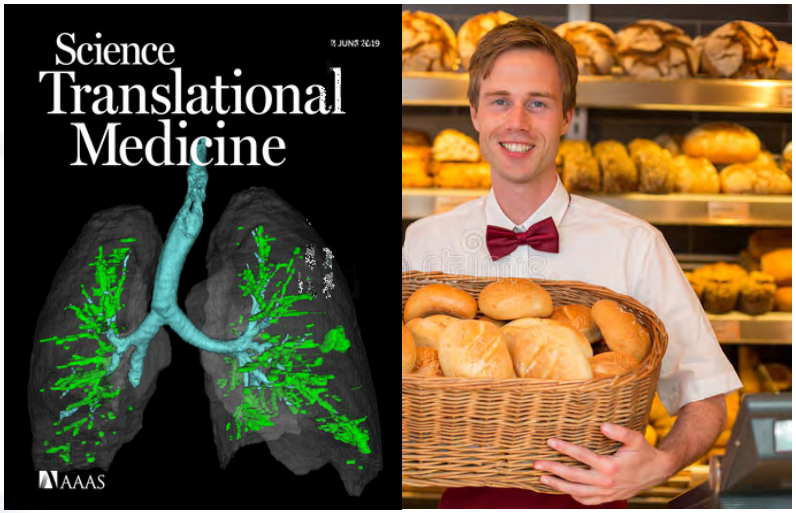
Reporting guidelines like ARRIVE describe the experiment. Guidelines like PREPARE are used to plan the experiment (choose the «ingredients» and «baking time»)

marksandspencer.com

https://www.bls.gov/ooh/images/3077.jpg

PREPARE *from day 1*

ARRIVE



https://www.dreamstime.com

Original Article

PREPARE: guidelines for planning animal research and testing

Adrian J Smith[1], R Eddie Clutton[2], Elliot Lilley[3], Kristine E Aa Hansen[4] and Trond Brattelid[5]

Laboratory Animals
0(0) 1–7

DOI: 10.1177/0023677217724823
journals.sagepub.com/home/lan
SAGE

Abstract

There is widespread concern about the quality, reproducibility and translatability of studies involving research animals. Although there are a number of reporting guidelines available, there is very little overarching guidance on how to *plan* animal experiments, despite the fact that this is the logical place to start ensuring quality. In this paper we present the PREPARE guidelines: Planning Research and Experimental Procedures on Animals: Recommendations for Excellence. PREPARE covers the three broad areas which determine the quality of the preparation for animal studies: formulation, dialogue between scientists and the animal facility, and quality control of the various components in the study. Some topics overlap and the PREPARE checklist should be adapted to suit specific needs, for example in field research. Advice on use of the checklist is available on the Norecopa website, with links to guidelines for animal research and testing, at https://norecopa.no/PREPARE.

Keywords

guidelines, planning, design, animal experiments, animal research

Date received: 5 April 2017; accepted: 27 June 2017

Introduction

The quality of animal-based studies is under increasing scrutiny, for good scientific and ethical reasons. Studies of papers reporting animal experiments have revealed alarming deficiencies in the information provided,[1,2] even after the production and journal endorsement of reporting guidelines.[3] There is also widespread concern about the lack of reproducibility and translatability of laboratory animal research.[4–7] This can, for example, contribute towards the failure of drugs when they enter human trials.[8] These issues come in addition to other concerns, not unique to animal research, about publication bias, which tends to favour the reporting of positive results and can lead to the acceptance of claims as fact.[9] This has understandably sparked a demand for reduced waste when planning experiments involving animals.[10–12] Reporting guidelines alone cannot solve the problem of wasteful experimentation, but thorough planning will increase the likelihood of success and is an important step in the implementation of the 3Rs of Russell & Burch (replacement, reduction, refinement).[13] The importance of attention to detail at all stages is, in our experience, often underestimated by scientists. Even small practical details can cause omissions or artefacts that can ruin experiments which in all other respects have been well-designed, and generate health risks for all involved. There is therefore, in our opinion, an urgent need for detailed but overarching guidelines for researchers on how to plan animal experiments which are safe and scientifically sound, address animal

[1]Norecopa, c/o Norwegian Veterinary Institute, P.O. Box 750, Sentrum, Oslo, Norway
[2]Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, Easter Bush, Midlothian, UK
[3]Research Animals Department, Science Group, RSPCA, Southwater, Horsham, West Sussex, UK
[4]Section of Experimental Biomedicine, Department of Production Animal Clinical Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Oslo, Norway
[5]Division for Research Management and External Funding, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, Bergen, Norway

Corresponding author:
Adrian Smith, Norecopa, c/o Norwegian Veterinary Institute, P.O. Box 750 Sentrum, 0106 Oslo, Norway.
Email: adrian.smith@norecopa.no

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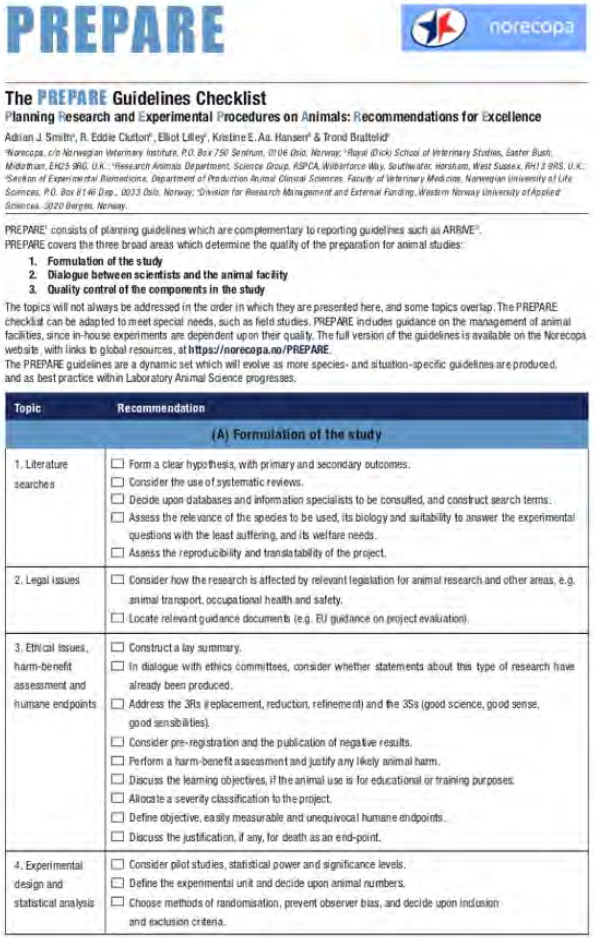
https://doi.org/10.1177/0023677217724823

Over 8,000 downloads from the journal website so far

Also downloadable from norecopa.no/PREPARE

A downloadable checklist



PREPARE

norecopa

The PREPARE Guidelines Checklist

Planning Research and Experimental Procedures on Animals: Recommendations for Excellence

Adrian J. Smith[a], R. Eddie Clutton[b], Elliot Lilley[c], Kristine E. Aa. Hansen[d] & Trond Bratteli[d]

[a]Norecopa, c/o Norwegian Veterinary Institute, P.O. Box 750 Sentrum, 0106 Oslo, Norway; [b]Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, Easter Bush, Midlothian, EH25 9RG, U.K.; [c]Research Animals Department, Science Group, RSPCA, Wilberforce Way, Southwater, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 9RS, U.K.; [d]Section of Experimental Biomedicine, Department of Production Animal Clinical Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, P.O. Box 8146 Dep., 0033 Oslo, Norway; [e]Division for Research Management and External Funding, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, 5020 Bergen, Norway.

PREPARE[1] consists of planning guidelines which are complementary to reporting guidelines such as ARRIVE[2].
PREPARE covers the three broad areas which determine the quality of the preparation for animal studies:

1. **Formulation of the study**
2. **Dialogue between scientists and the animal facility**
3. **Quality control of the components in the study**

The topics will not always be addressed in the order in which they are presented here, and some topics overlap. The PREPARE checklist can be adapted to meet special needs, such as field studies. PREPARE includes guidance on the management of animal facilities, since in-house experiments are dependent upon their quality. The full version of the guidelines is available on the Norecopa website, with links to global resources, at **https://norecopa.no/PREPARE**.
The PREPARE guidelines are a dynamic set which will evolve as more species- and situation-specific guidelines are produced, and as best practice within Laboratory Animal Science progresses.

Topic	Recommendation
(A) Formulation of the study	
1. Literature searches	☐ Form a clear hypothesis, with primary and secondary outcomes. ☐ Consider the use of systematic reviews. ☐ Decide upon databases and information specialists to be consulted, and construct search terms. ☐ Assess the relevance of the species to be used, its biology and suitability to answer the experimental questions with the least suffering, and its welfare needs. ☐ Assess the reproducibility and translatability of the project.
2. Legal issues	☐ Consider how the research is affected by relevant legislation for animal research and other areas, e.g. animal transport, occupational health and safety. ☐ Locate relevant guidance documents (e.g. EU guidance on project evaluation).
3. Ethical issues, harm-benefit assessment and humane endpoints	☐ Construct a lay summary. ☐ In dialogue with ethics committees, consider whether statements about this type of research have already been produced. ☐ Address the 3Rs (replacement, reduction, refinement) and the 3Ss (good science, good sense, good sensibilities). ☐ Consider pre-registration and the publication of negative results. ☐ Perform a harm-benefit assessment and justify any likely animal harm. ☐ Discuss the learning objectives, if the animal use is for educational or training purposes. ☐ Allocate a severity classification to the project. ☐ Define objective, easily measurable and unequivocal humane endpoints. ☐ Discuss the justification, if any, for death as an end-point.
4. Experimental design and statistical analysis	☐ Consider pilot studies, statistical power and significance levels. ☐ Define the experimental unit and decide upon animal numbers. ☐ Choose methods of randomisation, prevent observer bias, and decide upon inclusion and exclusion criteria.
(B) Dialogue between scientists and the animal facility	
5. Objectives and timescale, funding and division of labour	☐ Arrange meetings with all relevant staff when early plans for the project exist. ☐ Construct an approximate timescale for the project, indicating the need for assistance with preparation, animal care, procedures and waste disposal/decontamination. ☐ Discuss and disclose all expected and potential costs. ☐ Construct a detailed plan for division of labour and expenses at all stages of the study.
6. Facility evaluation	☐ Conduct a physical inspection of the facilities, to evaluate building and equipment standards and needs. ☐ Discuss staffing levels at times of extra risk.
7. Education and training	☐ Assess the current competence of staff members and the need for further education or training prior to the study.
8. Health risks, waste disposal and decontamination	☐ Perform a risk assessment, in collaboration with the animal facility, for all persons and animals affected directly or indirectly by the study. ☐ Assess, and if necessary produce, specific guidance for all stages of the project. ☐ Discuss means for containment, decontamination, and disposal of all items in the study.
(C) Quality control of the components in the study	
9. Test substances and procedures	☐ Provide as much information as possible about test substances. ☐ Consider the feasibility and validity of test procedures and the skills needed to perform them.
10. Experimental animals	☐ Decide upon the characteristics of the animals that are essential for the study and for reporting. ☐ Avoid generation of surplus animals.
11. Quarantine and health monitoring	☐ Discuss the animals' likely health status, any needs for transport, quarantine and isolation, health monitoring and consequences for the personnel.
12. Housing and husbandry	☐ Attend to the animals' specific instincts and needs, in collaboration with expert staff. ☐ Discuss acclimatization, optimal housing conditions and procedures, environmental factors and any experimental limitations on these (e.g. food deprivation, solitary housing).
13. Experimental procedures	☐ Develop refined procedures for capture, immobilisation, marking, and release or rehoming. ☐ Develop refined procedures for substance administration, sampling, sedation and anaesthesia, surgery and other techniques.
14. Humane killing, release, reuse or rehoming	☐ Consult relevant legislation and guidelines well in advance of the study. ☐ Define primary and emergency methods for humane killing. ☐ Assess the competence of those who may have to perform these tasks.
15. Necropsy	☐ Construct a systematic plan for all stages of necropsy, including location, and identification of all animals and samples.

References

1. Smith AJ, Clutton RE, Lilley E, Hansen KEA & Brattelid T. PREPARE: Guidelines for Planning Animal Research and Testing. *Laboratory Animals*, 2017. DOI: 10.1177/0023677217724823.
2. Kilkenny C, Browne WJ, Cuthill IC, et al. Improving Bioscience Research Reporting: The ARRIVE Guidelines for Reporting Animal Research. *PloS Biology*, 2010; DOI: 10.1371/journal.pbio.1000412.

Further information
https://norecopa.no/PREPARE | post@norecopa.no | @norecopa

norecopa

norecopa.no/PREPARE/prepare-checklist

PREPARE:

Planning **R**esearch and **E**xperimental **P**rocedures on **A**nimals: **R**ecommendations for **E**xcellence

PREPARE covers 15 topics:

Formulation of the study

1. Literature searches
2. Legal issues
3. Ethical issues, harm-benefit assessment and humane endpoints
4. Experimental design and statistical analysis

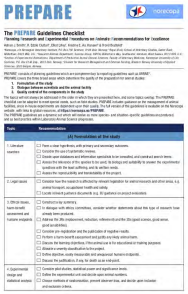
Dialogue between scientists and the animal facility

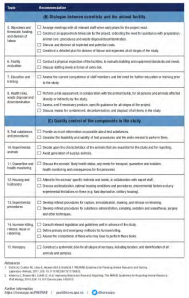
5. ~~Objectives and timescale, funding and division of~~ labour
6. Facility evaluation
7. Education and training
8. Health risks, waste disposal and decontamination

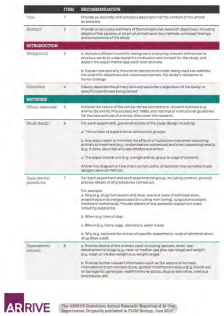
Methods

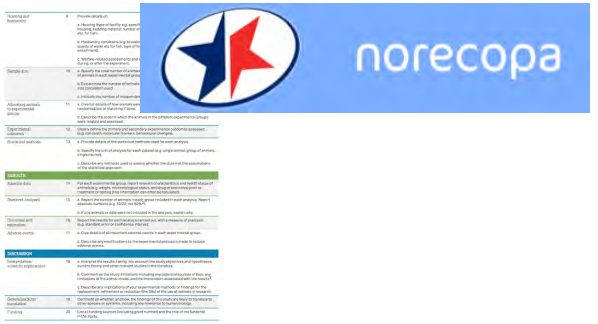
9. Test substances and procedures
10. Experimental animals
11. Quarantine and health monitoring
12. Housing and husbandry
13. Experimental procedures
14. Humane killing, release, reuse or rehoming
15. ~~Necropsy~~

Items in pink are not highlighted in ARRIVE









Day 1 of planning

Experiment and data analysis

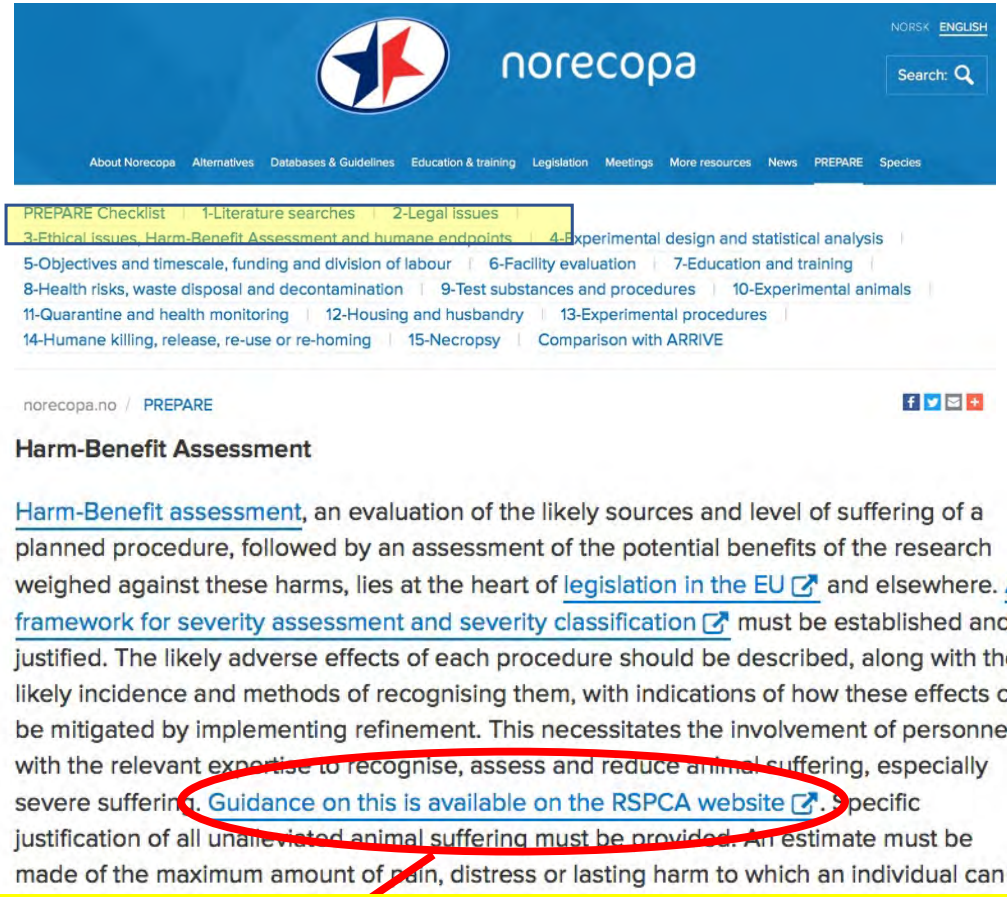
Manuscript

Submission

In addition to the checklist, much more information is available on:

norecopa.no/PREPARE

norecopa.no/PREPARE



Links to quality guidelines worldwide on e.g. blood sampling, injection volumes, housing and husbandry, analgesia, humane endpoints, experimental design

Contract between the animal facility and the research group

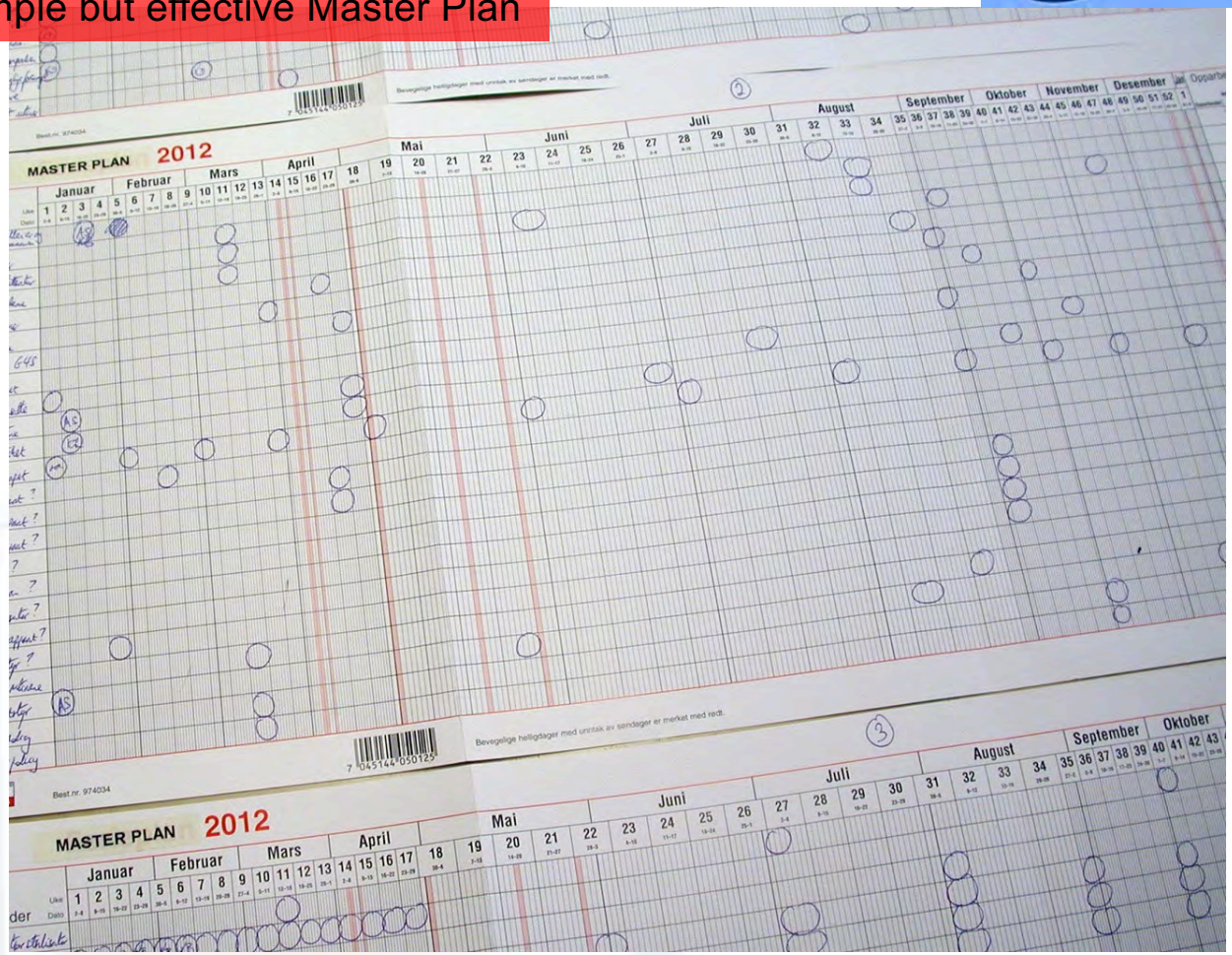
The division of labour and responsibilities

Clarifying all stages of the experiment

Ensuring that all necessary parameters are recorded

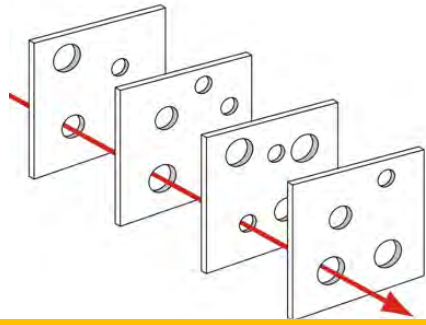
	Animal facility	Researcher	Not applicable
Animal:			
Arrival date			
Species			
Strain/stock and substrain			
Supplier (full name and address) or bred on the premises			
Number and sex			
Age, weight, stage of life cycle on arrival			
Pre-treatment (surgical or medical) from supplier			
Quality (e.g. SPF, germ-free, gnotobiotic, conventional)			
Acclimation time before the start of the experiment			
Time and duration of fasting (with/without water and bedding)			
Environment:			
Type of housing: barrier/conventional			
Temperature (mean ± variation)			
Light schedule			
Relative humidity (mean ± variation)			
Number of air changes in the animal room/cabinet per hour			
Environmental enrichment			
Housing:			
Free-range, shelf, cabinet, isolator			
Cage type and size			
Number and method of distribution of animals per cage			

A simple but effective Master Plan



A Contingency Plan, based upon risk assessment

- Access to emergency services (police, fire, medical and veterinary help, security guards, personnel transport in cases of acute illness)
- Means of communication with staff members at all levels
- SOPs for acute illness, including
  - serious haemorrhages
  - fainting
  - allergic and anaphylactic reactions
  - burns
  - head injuries
  - bites
  - corrosive injuries
  - and forms for reporting such injuries
- Firefighting, evacuation of personnel and animals
- Access to specialist services (e.g. ventilation system, plumbing, electrical installations, suppliers of equipment)
- Routines in cases of power failure, water leaks and (if applicable) natural disasters such as flooding
- Routines for emergency killing of animals
- Routines in cases of threats to the facility or personnel



Temporary staff at weekends and holidays

https://norecopa.no/prepare/6-facility-evaluation/master-plan-and-sops/contingency-plan

Consult the animal carers and technicians from Day 1:

- they have a right to know and will be more motivated
- they know the possibilities (and limitations) in the animal facility
- they often possess a large range of practical skills and are good at lateral thinking
- they know the animals best
- the animals know them best
- lack of involvement creates anxiety, depression and opposition to animal research, as well as limiting creativity which might improve the experiments

An International Culture of Care Network

norecopa.no/CoC

Closely related to a culture of care is the concept of a **Culture of Challenge** (Louhimies, 2015)**.**

Look for the acceptable, rather than choosing the accepted.

"because we've always done it that way»

«as often as necessary»

https://medium.com/the-composite/in-defence-of-the-emperors-new-clothes-dd23b1c04455

An example: i.v. injection of a radioactive isotope:

procedureswithcare.org.uk/intravenous-injection-in-the-mouse

norecopa.no/PREPARE

PREPARE Checklist | 1-Literature searches | 2-Legal issues |
3-Ethical issues, Harm-Benefit Assessment and humane endpoints | 4-Experimental design and statistical analysis |
5-Objectives and timescale, funding and division of labour | 6-Facility evaluation | 7-Education and training |
8-Health risks, waste disposal and decontamination | 9-Test substances and procedures | 10-Experimental animals
11-Quarantine and health monitoring | 12-Housing and husbandry | 13-Experimental procedures |
14-Humane killing, release, re-use or re-homing | 15-Necropsy | Comparison with ARRIVE

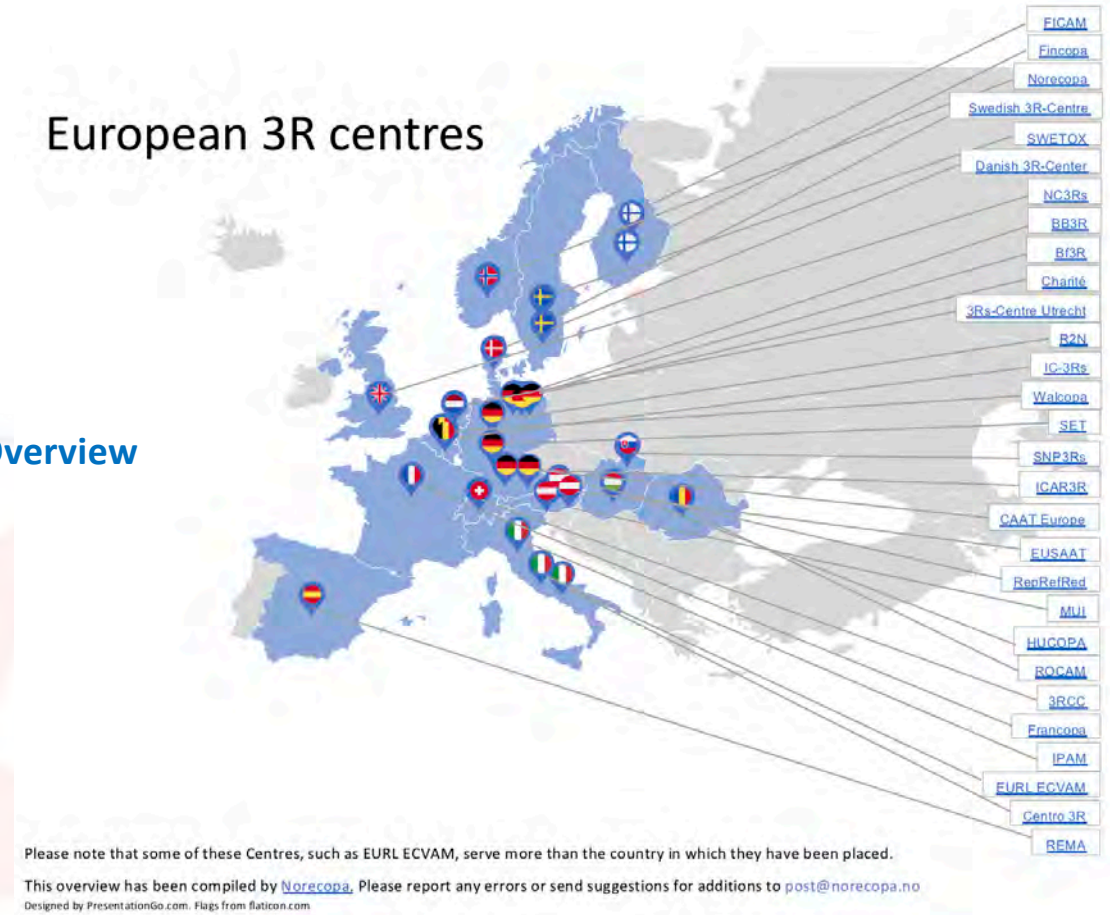
Thanks to Norecopa's main sponsors:

- Standing Committee on Business Affairs, Norwegian Parliament
- Norwegian Ministries of Agriculture and Fisheries
- Research Council of Norway
- Laboratory Animals Ltd.
- Nordic Society Against Painful Experiments (NSMSD)
- Norwegian Society for Animal Protection
- Novo Nordisk
- Scottish Accreditation Board
- Stiansen Foundation
- Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW)
- US Department of Agriculture

Interactive map of European 3R Centres

Map:
norecopa.no/3REuropeOverview

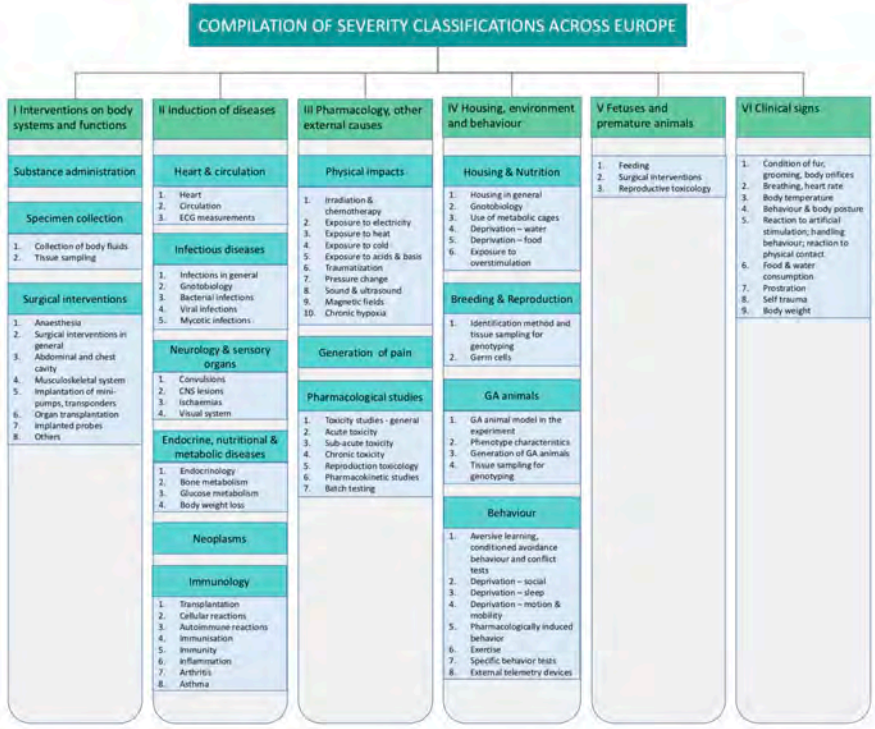
List of centres:
norecopa.no/3REurope

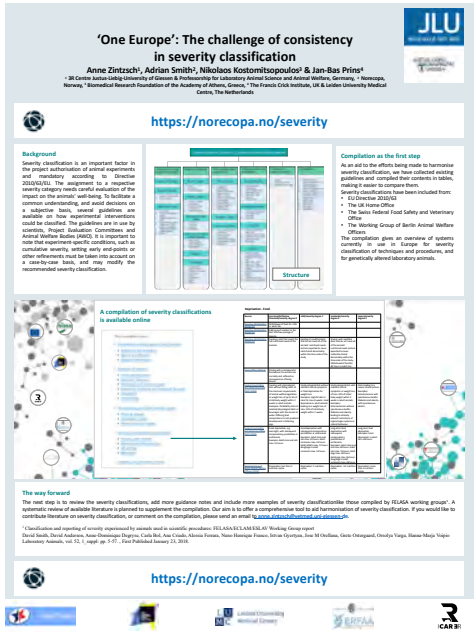


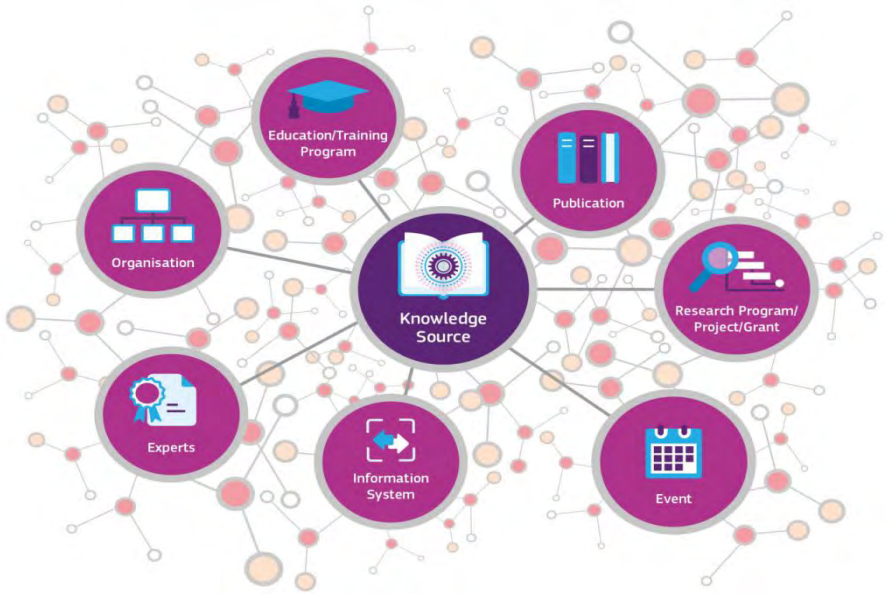
Mild, Moderate or Severe? A compilation of severity classification

norecopa.no/severity

Anne Zintzsch, Nikolaos Kostomitsopoulos
& Jan-Bas Prins

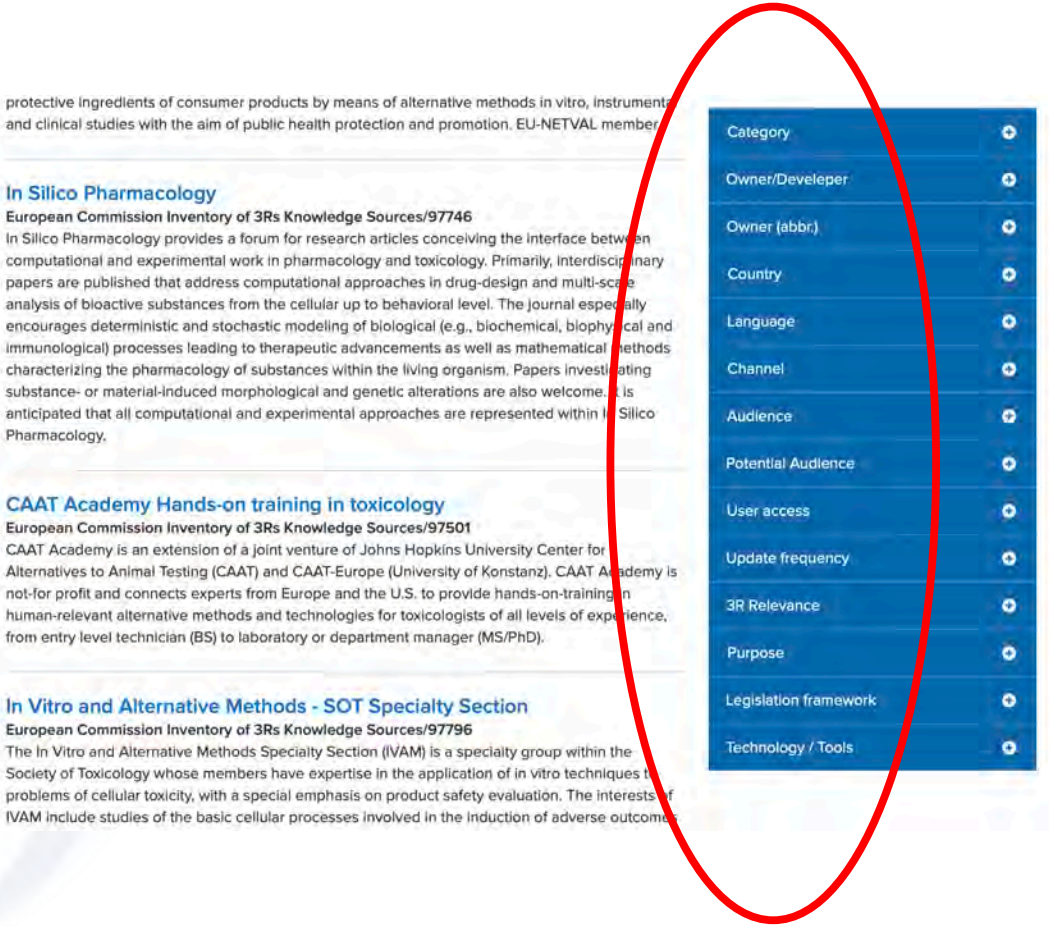




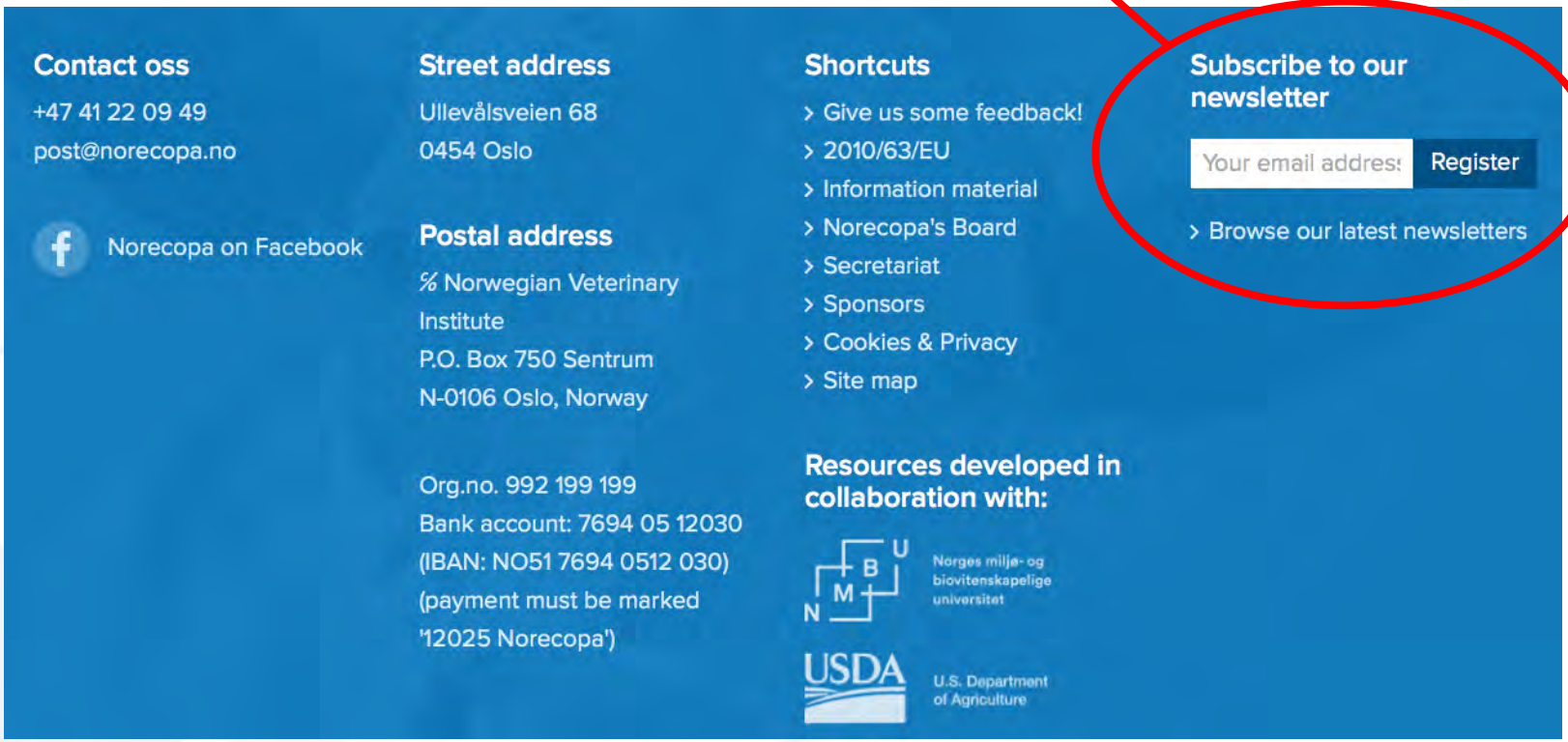


Which knowledge resources are there?
How are they being shared?
Where are the gaps or missed opportunities?

norecopa.no/3RInventory



English-language newsletters

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ESLAV/ECLAM Summer School, 24-27 June 2019