Let’s PREPARE together to ARRIVE in better shape: how to plan animal experiments

Adrian Smith, Norecopa, c/o Norwegian Veterinary Institute, P.O. Box 64, 1431 Ås, Norway
adrian.smith@norecopa.no

What’s the problem?

Preclinical in vivo research needs to be reproducible and translatable, while maximising the animals’ welfare and replacing them with alternatives wherever possible. This can be summed up in the 3Rs of Russell & Burch: Replace, Reduce & Refine.

Scientists are usually well aware of reporting guidelines when publishing research. These are important, but a sub-standard study, like a burnt cake, cannot be improved by a better description. Guidelines for planning, although not mandatory, are of great help in designing better experiments.

What can Norecopa offer?

Norecopa maintains a comprehensive database of resources for scientists, which include:

- 8,900 searchable webpages of quality 3R resources, with filters to facilitate searching
- the PREPARE guidelines for planning animal experiments, with a checklist in over 30 languages
- links to recordings of webinars covering all aspects of animal research
- an International Webinars & Meetings Calendar
- a collection of 400 guidelines for planning and conducting animal research
- an English-language newsletter with the latest developments within experimental design
- the NORINA database of alternatives to animal use in education and training
- a Refinement Wiki

Examples of Norecopa’s resources:

PREPARE covers:

- Formulation of a study
- Dialogue between scientists and the animal facility
- Quality control of the components in the study

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