

# PREPARE before you ARRIVE: Guidelines for Planning Animal Research and Testing

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As part of ongoing efforts to **reduce waste** and **increase the reproducibility** of animal research and testing, we have produced a set of guidelines for planning animal experiments:

## PREPARE (Planning Research and Experimental Procedures on Animals: Recommendations for Excellence)

The PREPARE guidelines for **planning** animal studies complement ARRIVE and other **reporting** guidelines.

**We believe that scientific validity and animal welfare cannot be improved by reporting alone:**

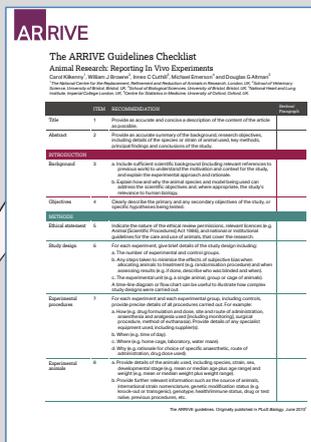
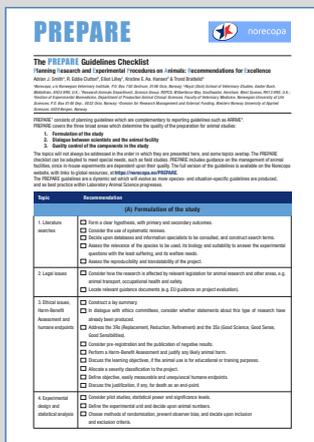
A large number of factors, which are rarely reported, need to be addressed, **from day one of planning an experiment.**

The **PREPARE checklist** outlines the main topics, while the **PREPARE website** contains links to thousands of resources with more information:

[norecopa.no/PREPARE](http://norecopa.no/PREPARE)

The PREPARE guidelines cover 15 topics, grouped in three main sections:

- A. 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
- B. 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
- C. Quality control of the components in the study**
  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



**PREPARE contains numerous links to guidelines and other international resources, and uses the intelligent search engine of the Norecopa website.**

**More information? [post@norecopa.no](mailto:post@norecopa.no)**

**The PREPARE guidelines are not a static checklist:**  
The PREPARE website contains a dynamic set of recommendations which will evolve as more species- and situation-specific guidelines are produced, and as best practice within Laboratory Animal Science progresses.