

Achievements quality objectives 2021-2022

This document indicates where the focus lay for quality improvement from September 2021 to September 2022, and to what extent we achieved these objectives.

Summary

During this year, many plans were achieved in full or in part. A number of aspects require continuous attention, including the implementation of laboratory animal training, the use of ATEX in order to re-use animals, and the course on Experimental Design. The LifeLong Learning policy is nearly finalised. Conducting the subject audits remains a point for attention, given the investment in time. The optimised forms and evaluation processes are saving time for all parties in the chain.

Knowledge sharing and implementation

- Completing overarching animal-experiments policy – *achieved, publication to follow*
- Promoting training of laboratory animals and tunnel handling of mice – *achieved, requires continuous attention during implementation*
 - [Video about training and web page on training lab animals](#) produced and publicised
 - Organised a discussion on mouse handling, under the guidance of an experienced external animal technician
 - Held a training course: ‘Mouse handling – train the trainer’
- Advising on improving housing for rats – *no developments*
- Implementing ARRIVE guidelines – *Guidelines translated into Dutch and distributed, brought to wider attention during online symposium about Open Science*
- Promoting course on Experimental design – *achieved, requires continuous attention*
 - Course has been given once, hosted by [the university's Continuing Education programme](#)
 - RandoMice has been made available to researchers
- Setting up knowledge-sharing meetings – *achieved*
 - 6 ‘LunchLeren’ meetings held, with moderate attendance

Qualifications and competence

- Implementing LifeLong Learning policy – *partly achieved*
 - Policy and implementation plan completed, publication pending administrative approval (expected)
 - Those involved have been prepared through registration meetings
 - ‘Dag van de Competencies’ (Competencies Day) I has been initiated and partly organised
 - Continuing education/training opportunities (art. 9 and 13f2) in the Netherlands identified and listed
- Developing methodology for registering competence and species-specific knowledge – *achieved*
 - Learning outcomes document for assessors submitted to European Commission
 - Species-specific knowledge is being registered

- *Digital book display in library set up with books on specific species*
- Concretising national Animal Welfare Officer training plan (art. 13f3A Wod) – *training content has been concretised. Hosted by [Continuing Education](#)*

Advising and auditing in the animal-experiment chain

- Subject audit: weekend shift; analyse results – *achieved and staff given feedback*
- Subject audit: anaesthesia, analgesia and postoperative care – *in progress*
- Subject audit: equipment/supply management and hygiene – *prepared*

Responsibility in the chain

- Identifying and auditing new homes for laboratory animals – *achieved*
 - *Audit conducted at Het Knagertje*
 - *Additional locations identified*
- Promoting xenofree research – *working group on Gels & Sera started up in conjunction with TPI Utrecht*
- Developing ethics training course – *in preparation*

Processes and forms

- Promoting [ATEX](#) website (animal and tissue exchange) – *achieved, requires continuous attention*
- Optimising forms (work protocol, audit forms) – *achieved; new forms in use*
- Optimising internal welfare procedures – *partly achieved; content of Veterinary Medicine Department (DGK) needs to be linked to ProVetcloud*
- Identifying and listing processes and risks (CCD's retrospective evaluation of process and risk management) – *in preparation*
- Implementing annual registration through [ALURES](#), with special attention given to breeding registration – *in preparation, waiting for information from government*

AWB Utrecht's own functioning

- Implementing Lean Six Sigma – *achieved, requires continuing attention*
 - *Workshop taken*
 - *New WP now in use*
 - *Workflow transferred to MS Teams*
- Setting up competence dossiers for AWB members – *options identified*
- Participating in peer-to-peer system audits – *in preparation*