

NEWSLETTER SUMMARY

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NADIR Annual Meeting 2012

Island of Vilm - Germany by Anne Buschmann, FLI

The NADIR annual meeting 2012 at month 38 of the project was held in Germany on the small **Island of Vilm in the Baltic Sea**, in proximity to the larger Island of Rügen. 28 NADIR partner attendees and five members of the NADIR Expert panel attended, providing the opportunity for a productive scientific exchange between the NADIR partners and the external experts.

the project, interactions and scientific exchange among NADIR partner institutes and between NADIR partners and the scientific community had developed well.



The meeting venue: International Academy for Nature Conservation of the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, Isle of Vilm, Germany

On the first meeting day, the work package leaders gave a short summary of the activities that had taken place within the different work packages during the past twelve months. It became obvious during

The next session discussed the activities within the different work packages that would be addressed during the final year of the project.

General Assembly agreed to submit an application for a no-cost extension of the NADIR project until December 2013 to the European Commission.

(continue on Page 2)

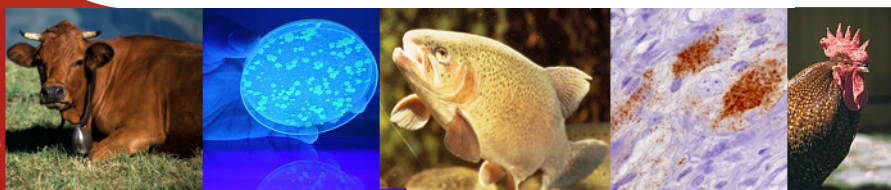


Interested listening during the meeting session

Last Minute Information

The NADIR Project has been granted a **8-month extension till 31st December 2013**, as included in the second amendment just signed by the European Commission.

An internal meeting, to discuss "**WP RA1: characterization of animal lines**", is planned to be held **next June in Paris**. A **Final Project Meeting** will take place in **Tours in October-November 2013**.



NADIR Annual Meeting 2012

Island of Vilms - Germany by Anne Buschmann, FLI - Part 2

The participants visited the **Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut** (FLI, partner 5) which is located nearby the meeting venue. The new facilities that have been constructed within the last years are partly open, while other parts will be inaugurated soon. The BSL2 laboratory which is already in use and the BSL3 animal facility, which is currently not yet operating were inspected by the NADIR participants

researcher, Dr. Kerstin Wernicke, who gave an overview on the hot topic Schmallenberg Virus, which has first been identified and characterized by FLI researchers. Her presentation gave a very vivid example on the efficient cooperation among European animal health research institutes, as the challenge experiments performed to analyse the biological features of Schmallenberg Virus were carried out by different partners, in order to accomplish as much basic work on the novel virus as possible in a short period of time.



Daily boat shuttle of the participants from Rügen Island to Vilm Island



Norbert Stockhofe, CVI, introducing Kerstin Wernicke, FLI, prior to her presentation on Schmallenberg Virus

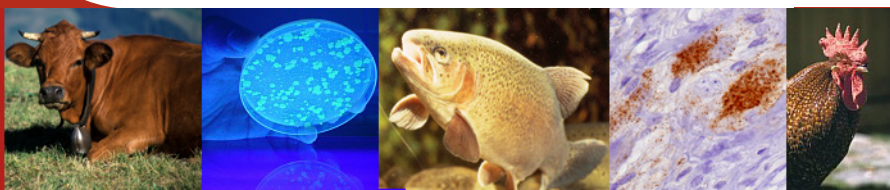
and experts., The visit resulted in an open and lively discussion on setting up of such facilities. The afternoon was completed by a visit of the FLI museum, and a short presentation of the institute's 100 year history.

Last but not least, the social programme of this Annual Meeting presented, besides many opportunities for discussion between the attendees, the opportunity to see the characteristics of the North-East German Baltic sea coastline, not to forget the ride in the little train ('hunting lodge express')!



The jolly ride in the 'Hunting Lodge Express Train'

The Annual Meeting was completed by a presentation of a young FLI



“Animal Use in Research and the new EU Directive”

Conference Briefing by Vanessa Ashall, Centre for Applied Bioethics University of Nottingham

The **Animal Use in Research and the new EU Directive Conference**, held in Newcastle, UK (June 2012) addressed the ethical, legal and scientific issues raised by the new EU Directive (2010/63/EU) on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes. This new legislation has the potential to shape attitudes towards the use of animals in research.

The conference represented a useful forum within which the issues raised in transposing the Directive into national legislation could be identified and debated.

The key objectives of the Conference were to:

- Examine the ways in which the legislation is likely to impact on support for activities regarding the use of Alternatives to animals (reduction, refinement and replacement of animals) in biomedical research and teaching;
- Promote dialogue between lawyers, ethicists, scientists, social scientists and veterinarians regarding the ethical use of animals, and the extent to which welfare can be further improved.

More broadly, this event provided the opportunity to engage with



general issues pertaining to the use of animals in science and medicine.

The welfare of protected research animals was a clear underlying primary issue from most perspectives and this set the tone for discussions relating to the implications of the transposition of the Directive.

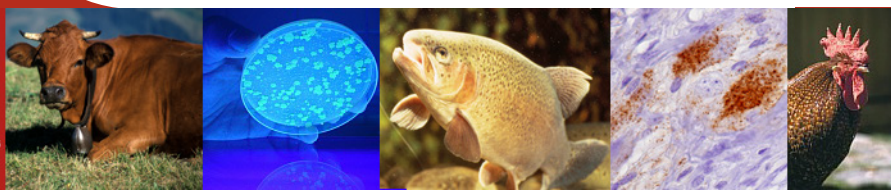
During the course of the conference delegates identified three important features of the new directive:

1. the **hierarchical use** of the ‘**Three R’s**’ (Replacement> Reduction> Refinement) to minimise animal use and further improve animal welfare, for example through the use of “alternative methods”, appropriate experimental design and refinement of procedures and animal care.

2. promoting **transparency**, for example through the requirement for non-technical summary publication and retrospective reviews.

3. promotion of **best practice** through the sharing of information; the National Committee in each Member State must exchange information on the operation of Animal Welfare Bodies and project evaluation and share best practices within the Community.

Whilst farm species were not mentioned directly, as with all vertebrate animals they are protected under the Directive and thus will be affected by the Directive.



Highlighting the Value of the ARRIVE Guidelines

Developed by the UK NC3Rs, the ARRIVE guidelines aim to improve the reporting of animal experiments to ensure the data can be fully evaluated and used by other animal researchers. The guidelines are targeted at researchers, journal editors, peer reviewers and funding bodies.

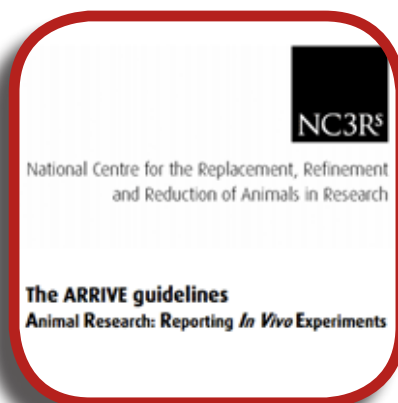
The guidelines were first published on the NC3Rs website and in prominent scientific journals (for example PLOS biology, Animal Welfare, etc). The authors of the guidelines intend them to be flexible and to accommodate a wide range of research areas.

The guidelines consist of a 20 point check list, which includes the essential information that is considered to be important for all animal research publications. The checklist and guidance include the following :

A **Title** which provides an accurate and concise description of the article content.

The **abstract** which needs to summarise the background, experiment findings and conclusions of the study, and include details of the animal species and strains used, and a brief description of the key methods used.

An **introduction** which must provide the scientific background with relevant references to specific work, an explanation of why the animal species was selected and its relation to human biology. In addition within this section, the objectives of the study need to be discussed (for example explaining primary and



secondary objectives of the study with any emphasis on a specific hypothesis tested).

A **methods** section which must begin with ethical statements, license information and ethical review processes.

For each experiment the **study design** must be described preferably in logical steps, including the description of experimental and control groups, any steps taken to reduce any subjective biases when allocating animals to treatment groups. It is also important that the experimental unit is discussed with information provided on whether a single animal caged or group of animals are used. Followed by experimental procedures, (including controls, then detailing procedures by how, when, where and why).

Details of the **experimental animals** used should be provided (including breed, sex, type, strain, weight, developmental stage and the source of animal with international strain nomenclature and genotype). Information on housing and husbandry (such as bedding, companion numbers, housing size, shape, breeding programs,

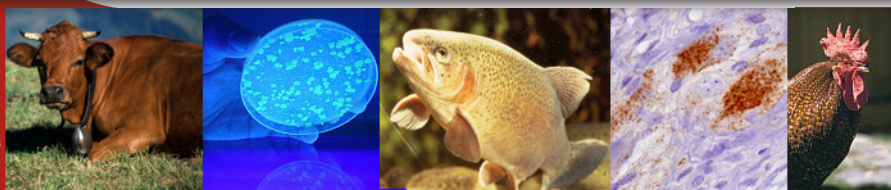
food, water, and environmental enrichment), sample size (number of animals used, why that number was used, number of replications) and welfare assessments and interventions must also be included in this section. Finally the details of the allocation of animals to experimental groups, experimental outcomes, and details of statistical methods used.

Results must include information on the baseline data (including information on the animals e.g., health status, relevant characteristics), number analysed (if any were not analysed or used then explain why?), outcomes as well as details of any adverse events

The **Discussion** section needs to include an interpretation of the results in relation to the study objectives and hypotheses and to any other relevant studies, with references. Make comment on the limitations of the study and potential sources of bias. Scientific implications need to be discussed especially in relation to the 3Rs and how the findings may relate to other studies or species.

Finally it is important to list the **funding sources** and their role within the study.

For many researchers these guidelines are already established as good practice for reporting animal studies. It is however useful to have a clear checklist for all animal researchers as a baseline approach.



Upcoming Animal Experimentations Conferences

International events

Below is an updated list of important conferences related to Animal Experimentation planned for 2013 and 2014.

2013 ARIZONA VECTOR CONTROL WORKSHOP

Date: 18th April 2013

Venue: Hilton Sedona Resort, Sedona, AZ - USA

Link: <http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/oids/vector/conf/2013/>

Registration deadline: 1st April 2013

NC3RS MATHEMATICS STUDY GROUP, APPLYING MATHEMATICS TO THE 3RS PROBLEM

Date: 15th – 18th April 2013

Venue: Central London, U.K.

Link: <http://www.nc3rs.org.uk/event.asp?id=1852>

Information: In partnership with the Mathematics in Medicine Study Group workshop aim is to connect mathematicians and biologists. Solving problems or questions which if addressed could help to replace or reduce the use of animals. For further information on Mathematics in Medicine Study Groups, examples of previous problems brought, work undertaken and new outcomes generated, please see <http://www.maths-in-medicine.org>.

This workshop is free to attend.

Registration deadline: 8th April 2013

43RD SCANDLAS 2013 SYMPOSIUM

Date: 7th-20th April 2013

Venue: Nokia Concert hall, in Solarias Centre, Tallinn, Estonia

Link: <http://www.scandlas2013.ee/>

Information: The symposium will focus on the crossroads of cinematography and animal research. A wide-ranging program which covers various themes, and both scientific and practical aspects of the art of visualisation in experimental animal science. The program will include plenary presentations by national and international speakers, posters, workshops, and round table discussions. Scientific committee of the symposium proposes the following



themes:

- How to visualize mice? Imaging and other techniques
- Home-cage, sweet home?
- E-courses: pain and pleasure
- Recording behavior: why and how?
- Large animals for large screens
- Biorobotics
- Different workshops on animal handling, health monitoring and analgesia standards in animal experiments

2013 LAMA/ATA 29TH ANNUAL MEETING - LABORATORY ANIMAL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

Date: 17th-20th April 2013

Venue: Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort, USA

Link: <http://www.lama-online.org/events/upcoming-events/>

Information: See link <http://www.lama-online.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/LAMA-2013-Program-3-20-2013.pdf>

WORKSHOP ON PAIN AND DISTRESS IN LABORATORY ANIMALS

Date: 29th April - 1st May 2013

Venue: Newcastle University, U.K.

Link: <http://www.ahwla.org.uk/workshops.html>

Information: This workshop will provide an up-to-date review of the assessment, prevention and alleviation of pain and distress in laboratory animals. The workshop will be of interest to veterinarians, animal technicians, research scientists, and members of ethics committees. Seminars will be extensively illustrated with video material and ample time provided for discussion. Although greatest emphasis will be given to rodents,

the general approaches discussed are applicable to all laboratory species, and specific case-studies will include a wide range of species

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DISEASES OF ZOO AND WILD ANIMALS 2013

Date: 8th – 11th May 2013

Venue: University of Veterinary Medicine (Vetmeduni) in Vienna, Austria.

Link: <http://www.zoovet-conference.org/>

Information: The goal of this conference is to bring together wildlife scientists and veterinarians from all over the world interested in diseases of free-ranging and captive animals, and to present the latest advances and stimulate future research in this topic. To this aim, the selected plenary talks and workshops will cover a diverse range of fascinating topics such as infectious diseases, surgery, handling and treatment methods and conservation, among many others.

HEALTHY LIVESTOCK AND PEOPLE SEMINAR

Date: 14th May 2013

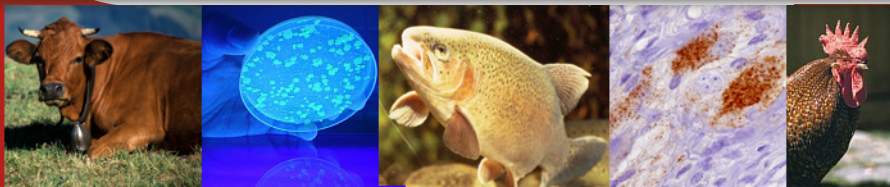
Venue: Brussels, Belgium

Link: <http://www.animaltaskforce.eu/News%20and%20events/News/hedateMay14BrusselsHealthylivestock.asp>

Information: The event brings together science, policy and industry to discuss the integrated approaches needed for securing animal health in Europe and to outline research priorities in animal health for the coming years.

What's in it for you? Whether you are a policy maker in agriculture, working in the animal production industry, or a researcher in livestock science or veterinary science:

- Get an integrated view on animal health from science, policy & industry
- Get an overview of state-of-the-art knowledge on the opportunities of animal breeding and genomics for animal health
- Discuss integrated approaches for securing food safety and security
- Together define research priorities for the future



Upcoming Animal Experimentations Conferences

International events - Part 2

NEURODEVELOPMENTAL BASIS FOR HEALTH AND DISEASE

Date: 9th-13th June 2013

Venue: Egmond aan Zee, The Netherlands

Link: <http://www.ina14.org/>

Information: Developmental neurotoxicity Alternative methods and animal 3Rs Neuroendocrine toxicity, metabolic syndrome and CNS diseases New (in vivo) approaches in neuropathology Translational neurotoxicology Neurotoxicity of nanoparticles Open for 'what is hot' in 2013 Young talented scientist promotion All aspects of neurotoxicology are welcome! The meeting will include: Scientific sessions, Symposia, Oral lectures, Poster sessions, Student poster presentations, Student support, Jacob Hooisma lecture. The meeting also promises to have an interesting social programme on Tuesday 11 June 2013 and of course the traditional soccer match!

Abstract deadline: 1st April 2013

GOOD CLINICAL RESEARCH MEDICRES 3RD WORLD CONGRESS

Date: 7th-8th June 2013

Venue: Istanbul, Turkey

Link: <http://www.ic2013.medicres.org/>

Information: MedicReS IC2013 is a post graduate clinical research education meeting for clinical investigators with invited speakers from FDA, NIH, Lancet and MedicReS.

New perspectives on new safety concerns, adverse event monitoring, compliance with legal and ethical obligations of clinical research, and acceptable scientific and analytic standards in clinical study design and conduct will be discussed in this meeting. In the conference, all participants will have MedCalc Biostatistical Software life-long license and applied clinical biostatistics course with MedCalc during the conference.

Participants will also meet MedicReS "Good Medical Research", MedicReS Journals, MedicReS Accreditation Programs will be discussed and all NEW rules & regulations about "Good Clinical Research".

Abstract submission: 3rd April 2013

Registration deadline: 31st May 2013

ANIMAL RESEARCH: BETTER SCIENCE FROM FEWER ANIMALS FELASA/SECAL (SPANISH LAS ASSOCIATION) INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

Date: 9th-13th June 2013

Venue: Barcelona, Spain

Link: www.felasa2013.eu

Information: FELASA, the Federation of European Laboratory Animal Science Associations event, more information to follow.

Early registration Deadline: 30th April, 2013

MONDIAL RESEARCH GROUP: REDUCED ANIMAL TESTING

Date: 25th-26th June 2013

Venue: Zurich, Switzerland

Link: <http://www.mondialresearchgroup.com/index.php?whereTo=ratest>

Information: The Mondial research group discussions will cover the 3Rs, suffering reductions, computer modelling and in vitro methods.

ANIMAL RESEARCH, ETHICS AND PUBLIC POLICY: THE IMPLICATIONS OF DIRECTIVE 2010/63/EU

Date: 4th July 2013

Venue: Leicester University, Leicester

Link: <http://www.casj.org.uk/news/animal-research-seminar-cfp/>

Information: This seminar, focussed on the UK directive but incorporating insights from the EU and further afield, will examine these principles and how they are being translated into practice as each member state implements the Directive

Proposals from all disciplines and stakeholders on factors that affect the impact of Directive 2010/63/EU are wanted, particularly on animal welfare, including:

- the normative character of current animal research practice and policy
- the ethical relevance of protecting animal welfare/avoiding animal harm in research and any appropriate policy implications e.g. for the operation of the harm/benefit assessment
- the opportunities and obstacles (they may be scientific, cultural, economic or political) for reducing and



eliminating animal harm that occurs

in the course of research and testing

- how do animal research and testing establishments implement the 3Rs both at micro-level (i.e. individual research projects) and also strategic level (e.g. corporate targets for the reduction and/or refinement of animal research)?
- public policy lessons to be drawn from the above

Abstract deadline: 8th April 2013

ANIMAL RESEARCH, ETHICS AND PUBLIC POLICY: THE IMPLICATIONS OF DIRECTIVE 2010/63/EU

Date: 4th July 2013

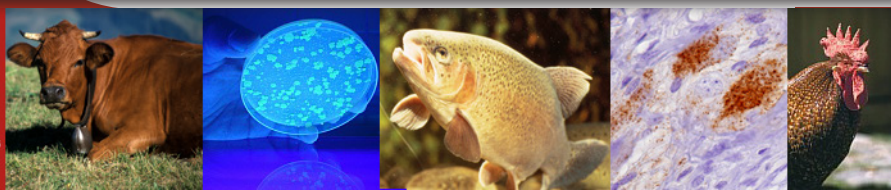
Venue: Leicester University, Leicester

Link: <http://www.casj.org.uk/news/animal-research-seminar-cfp/>

Information: This seminar, focussed on the UK directive but incorporating insights from the EU and further afield, will examine these principles and how they are being translated into practice as each member state implements the Directive

Proposals from all disciplines and stakeholders on factors that affect the impact of Directive 2010/63/EU are wanted, particularly on animal welfare, including:

- the normative character of current animal research practice and policy
- the ethical relevance of protecting animal welfare/avoiding animal harm in research and any appropriate policy implications e.g. for the operation of the harm/benefit assessment
- the opportunities and obstacles (they may be scientific, cultural, economic or political) for reducing and eliminating animal harm that occurs in the course of research and testing



Upcoming Animal Experimentations Conferences

International events - Part 3

- how do animal research and testing establishments implement the 3Rs both at micro-level (i.e. individual research projects) and also strategic level (e.g. corporate targets for the reduction and/or refinement of animal research)?
- public policy lessons to be drawn from the above

Abstract deadline: 8th April 2013

UFAW INTERNATIONAL ANIMAL WELFARE SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM SCIENCE IN THE SERVICE OF ANIMAL WELFARE

Date: 4th-5th July 2013

Venue: Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain

Link: <http://www.ufaw.org.uk/conf.html>

Information: The aim of this symposium is to provide a forum for all those active or interested in animal welfare science and its application around the world, to meet and discuss current topics in this field and international variation in priorities, concerns and approaches to animal welfare science

10TH IVIS INTERNATIONAL AND VETERINARY IMMUNOLOGY SYMPOSIUM

Date: 28th August - 1st September 2013

Venue: University of Milan, Italy

Link: <http://http://www.ivis2013.org>

Information: The 10th International Veterinary Immunology Symposium will take place in 2013 in Milan, Italy. For this reason the logo of the Symposium is a horse's head drawn by Leonardo da Vinci, a great genius of mankind who spent most of his life and artistic activity in Milan.

Plenary Sessions:

- Innate immunity
- Regulation of the immune response
- Immunogenetics and molecular immunology
- Infection and immunity

Concurrent Sessions: Immune response to viral infections; Immune response to bacterial infections; Immune response to parasites; Large animal models in immunology; Mucosal immunity; Veterinary vaccinology, Veterinary clinical immunology

- Inflammation and cytokines
- Workshops: NK cells - receptors, functions, and role in infections; Immune responses in the mammary gland; Immune responses to non-infectious stressors; Role of microbiota in regulating immunity; Veterinary clinical immunology and field surveys; Antigen-presenting cells; Genetic control of immune responses; VIC - IUIS toolkit; VIC - IUIS MHC

Abstract deadline: 30th April 2013

ANZLAA CONFERENCE 2013

Date: 4th-6th September 2013

Venue: Perth, Australia

Link: <http://www.anzlaaconference.org/Conf2013/default.aspx>

Information: The conference theme for 2013 is "The Balancing Act" which will serve as a catalyst for presentations and discussions around many important aspects of animal based research, care, and welfare. Need to pre register for information

WORKSHOP ON LABORATORY ANIMAL ANAESTHESIA AND PERIOPERATIVE CARE

Date: 9th -11th Sep 2013

Venue: Hotel, Newcastle Upon Tyne (location will be confirmed in full following registration)

Link: <http://www.ahwla.org.uk/workshops.html>

Information: This will be an interactive workshop and in order to facilitate discussion, the number of participants will be limited. The course includes a practical session on the use of monitoring apparatus (using human subjects) and problem-based group discussions. Course tutors will include Professor Paul Flecknell and Dr Huw Golledge (Newcastle University) and Professor Eddie Clutton (RCVS Specialist and European College Specialist in Veterinary Anaesthesia, University of Edinburgh).

The topics covered will include:

- Pharmacology of commonly used injectable and inhalational agents and their potential for interference with experimental procedures.
- Physiological monitoring and maintenance, with particular focus on long-term anaesthesia and small

species

- Pharmacology, indications and issues with the use of less commonly used agents (e.g. alpha-chloralose, urethane)
- Use of anaesthetic circuits, ventilators and monitoring equipment

Registration deadline: 1st September 2013

AALAS 2013 ANNUAL MEETING

Date: 27th-31st October 2013

Venue: Baltimore convention centre, MD, USA

Link: http://nationalmeeting.aalas.org/future_sites.asp

Information: The AALAS National Meeting is the largest gathering in the world of professionals concerned with the production, care, and use of laboratory animals.

For more information please go to this link: http://nationalmeeting.aalas.org/meeting_features.asp

Abstract deadline: 1st June 2013

2013 LASA - 50TH ANNIVERSARY MEETING

Date: 26th- 28th November 2013

Venue: TBC

Link: http://www.lasa.co.uk/winter_meeting.html

HUMANE SCIENCE IN THE 21ST CENTURY: 9TH WORLD CONGRESS ON ALTERNATIVES AND ANIMAL USE IN THE LIFE SCIENCES

Date: 24th-26th August 2014

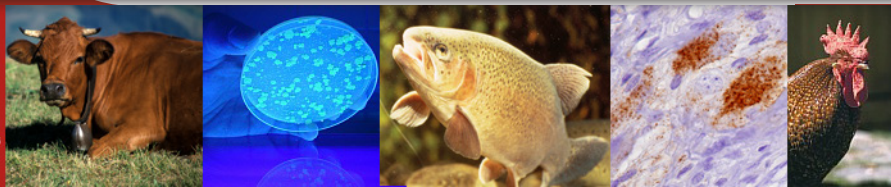
Venue: Hilton Hotel, Prague

Link: <http://www.wc9prague.org/congress%20comm.html>

Information: Topics covered will include global cooperation and standardisation, ethics in the use of animals for scientific purposes, 3 Rs principles and refinement, education, funding and training for the 3Rs, Basic research, new test methods, strategies in toxicology, Chemicals, Cosmetics, Consumer products, Pharmaceuticals, Medical devices, Vaccines, Food supplements and Emerging issues.

Abstract deadline: April 2014

Registration opens: August 2013



Transnational Access projects

Call for Proposals

NADIR invites the Research Community to bid for funding to carry out projects within the facilities participating in the network. Proposals can be for projects involving research on any of the livestock species (cattle, pigs, chickens, sheep, goat and fish) and may use live animals including laboratory species (e.g. mice) or cell lines. NADIR will fund the experimental work within the facilities and also travel and subsistence costs linked to the proposed project. Priority will be given to projects focused on diseases or pathogens requiring L3 containment, but proposals requiring a lower level of containment will also be considered.

Research laboratories or consortia of laboratories (public or private) from any European country or from EU associated countries can apply. To be eligible applicants must satisfy the following conditions:

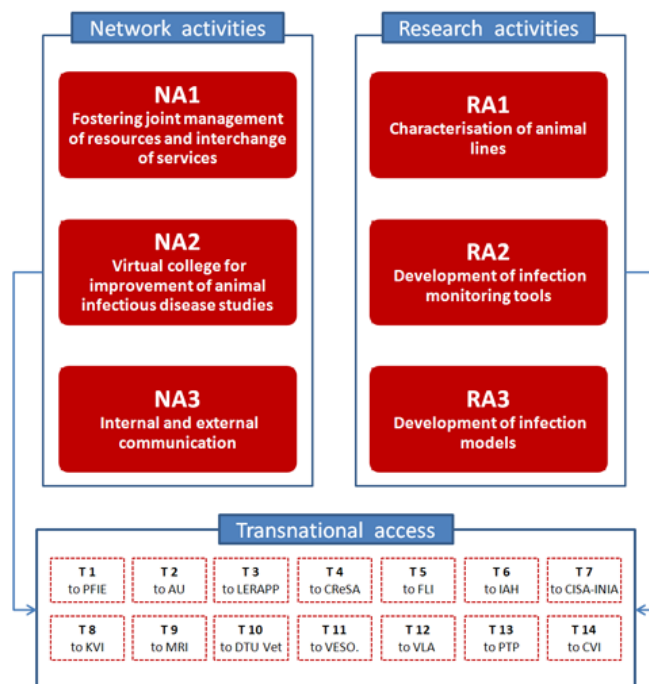
The application leader and the majority of the users (if a consortium) must work in:

- an institution established in a Member State or Associated State;
- a country other than the country where the NADIR facility is located.

Proposals will be reviewed by an independent steering group of experts in the fields of disease research and animal experimentation. The review will take into account the scientific quality, novelty, feasibility and the ethical soundness of the proposal, and in addition the expertise of the applicants, the cost and the duration of the work. Projects submitted will be considered at the next meeting of the

Trans-national access steering committee. Transnational access project must be completed before the end of NADIR.

More information about call, facilities, the application procedure and eligibility criteria is available at the following link: http://www.nadir-project.eu/nadir_project/call_for_access.



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