

Rigor and Reproducibility in Animal Studies

March 10, 2025

Working Agenda

- 8:00 a.m. Check-In & Refreshments**
- 9:00 a.m. Introduction to the Workshop and Topic of Rigor and Reproducibility Challenges in Animal Studies**
Jeff Everitt, DVM, DACVP, FIATP
Professor (Emeritus) Pathology
Duke University
- 9:45 a.m. KEYNOTE – Societal Expectation of Quality, Rigor and Reproducibility in Preclinical Research**
E. Andrew Balas, MD, PhD
President, Friends of NLM
Professor and Lead
Biomedical Research Innovation Laboratory
Augusta University
- 10:45 a.m. Break**
- 11:00 a.m. Concepts of Experimental Design for Animal Studies**
Richard Barfield, PhD
Senior Biostatistician
Duke University
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. What Influences the Data in Animal Studies – Intrinsic Factors**
Rani Sellers, DVM, PhD, DACVP
Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 1:45 p.m. Use of State of the Art Genetic Quality Control to Improve Rigor and Reproducibility in Mouse Research**
Fernando Pardo-Manuel de Villena, PhD
Chair and Professor, Genetics
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2:30 p.m. Break**
- 2:45 p.m. What Influences the Data in Animal Studies (Part 1) – Extrinsic Factors**
David Kurtz, DVM, PhD – *Pending Federal Approval*
Head, Quality Assurance Laboratory
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

- 3:30 p.m.** **What Influences the Data in Animal Studies (Part 2) – Extrinsic Factors**
Allison R. Rogala, DVM
Assistant Professor
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 4:15 p.m.** **How to Reduce Impact on Extrinsic Factors in Animal Studies Using Lessons Learned from the Collaborative Cross**
Rachel Lynch, PhD
Assistant Professor, Genetics
Director, Systems Genetics Core Facility
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 5:00 p.m.** **Wrap-Up and Review of Day 1**
- 5:15 p.m.** **Adjourn**

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March 11, 2025

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- 8:30 a.m.** **Study Quality and How to Minimize Bias in Animal Studies to Promote Use and Utility**
Andrew Rooney, PhD – *Pending Federal Approval*
Acting Chief
Integrative Health Assessment Branch
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
- 9:15 a.m.** **Pathology and Biosampling Strategies to Support Animal Study Rigor & Quality**
Hannah Atkins, DVM, PhD, DACVP
Research Associate Professor
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 10:15 a.m.** **Break**
- 10:30 a.m.** **Animal Model Quality Assessment and Translational Issues in Animal Research**
Brian Berridge, DVM, PhD, DACVP
Principal Consultant
B2 Pathology Solutions, LLC
- 12:00 p.m.** **Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m.** **Strategies for Increasing Quality and Value in Animal Modeling**
Craig Fletcher, DVM, PhD
Professor and Vice Chair of Comparative Medicine
Associate Vice Chancellor of Research
Director, Division of Comparative Medicine
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 1:45 p.m.** **New Technology Approaches for Increased Rigor in Animal Studies**
Jesse D. Cushman, PhD – *Pending Federal Approval*
Director
Neurobehavioral Core Laboratory
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
- 2:30 p.m.** **Break**
- 3:00 p.m.** **Planning and Publishing Animal Studies to Promote Reproducibility**
Jeff Everitt, DVM, DACVP, FIATP
Professor (Emeritus) Pathology
Duke University
- 4:00 p.m.** **Wrap-Up and Review of Conference**
- 4:15 p.m.** **Adjourn**