

The Trip Report

Name of traveller: Krystyna Wandzel

The main purpose of the visit

I was particularly interested in the development of the principles of such a large unit, the principles of welfare and care animal, as well as health monitoring, the principles of animal testing, the acquisition of new manual skills.

Description of the work carried out during the visit

The training took place at The University Hospital of Lille, Faculty of Medicine Department of Experimental Research, one of the largest centres of this type in the northern France. The training took place from 06 to 22 October 2017. This period can be divided into two parts, each part covered a week. The first part when I was acquainted with the Faculty of Medicine Department of Experimental Research, and the unit's activities. The second part consisted of the surgical workshops aimed at learning new surgical techniques.

The main results obtained:

The Department of Experimental Research is a unit with state-of-the-art equipment, a place where well-educated and experienced employees work. It should be noted that they often lead very complicated procedures on animals taking care of welfare of animals. In addition, it is a friendly place for people who are starting their career or are developing their knowledge in the field of research.

I was very well received at the University. I was allowed to observe many different procedures and hosts answered all my questions. I exchanged opinions and experiences with the staff which was very valuable. This allowed to develop new skills and to gain broader understanding of a proper approach towards animals. What's more, I gained knowledge of the structure of the Faculty of Medicine Department of experimental research and effective principles of functioning of a large research unit. I acquired new qualifications and I learned new techniques of work (for example in the field of surgery, research work)

However, for me also important was that I learned the welfare and care of animals such as mini pigs, rodents (mice and rats) and rabbits and I also learned how the Department of experimental research applied The Three Rs (3Rs).

I am very grateful for the opportunity to participate in the training, as well as the time and patience of my host. I would like to use the knowledge gained to improve the quality of work in our animal facility.