

The ICLAS 2018 fellowship report

Awardee: Aleksandra Paterek, PhD student in Centre of Medical Postgraduate Education in Warsaw and research technician at Laboratory of Zebrafish Developmental Genomics in International Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology

Host institution: University Hospital of Lille, Faculty of Medicine, France

Host person: Dr. Thomas Hubert

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My training program consisted of two parts. First week I spent mostly in Département Hospitalo-Universitaire de Recherche Expérimentale (DHURE). During that time I was introduced to operating theaters, microsurgery room, as well as animal facility. I had also opportunity to become familiar with specialized equipment: electric surgery table, gas anesthesia machine (isoflurane) with respirator, anesthesia monitors, electrosurgical unit. Department use a various animal models: rodents (mice, rats, gerbils), sheep, pigs (minipigs, pork butchers) and lagomorphs (rabbits), so I was able to improve my knowledge about breeding, welfare and use of different laboratory animals. During my stay I had opportunity to attend to different kind of experiment on small animals and several surgery on minipigs.

I also visited the different laboratories of University Lille 2. In Pharmacology Laboratory I learned more about different kinds of behavioral tests. In Life Imaging Platform - Preclinical Tray I received brief introduction about MRI and PET techniques and I could observe imaging examinations for small and larger animals.

Second part of my training I spent in school of surgery, where I had a chance to improve my surgical skills as well as learn new surgical techniques. The program contained lecturers and also workshops on simulators and real animals. The program was very rich in different courses: i.a. microsurgery, laparotomy, laparoscopy, ligature and suture.

This training was very beneficial for me. I had opportunity to experience how advanced animal facility work, in particular what solutions have been applied for handling administrative duties, preserving animals welfare and care and implementing of The Three Rs (3Rs) principles.

I would like to thank ICLAS board for giving me this chance to extend my horizons, Dr Thomas Hubert for hosting me as well as his amazing team for warm welcome and great atmosphere.