

Lecture 1: World Organisation for Animal Health WOAHP initiatives and standards on animal welfare: M. Pannett & K. Littin

1	<p>Among the 4 pillars supporting the global strategy, there are some items of animal welfare regarding the research and education. In case of the university or company, what do you think about the standards for animal experiments?</p> <hr/> <p>WOAH recognises the vital role played by the use of live animals in research and education. The OIE Guiding Principles for Animal Welfare state that such a use makes a major contribution to the wellbeing of people and animals and emphasise the importance of the Three Rs (Replacement, reduction, and refinement) . WOAHP recommends that records on animal use should be maintained at an institutional level, as appropriate to the institution and project proposals and species used. Key events and interventions should be recorded to aid decision. The making and promote good science and welfare. A summary of these records may be gathered on a national basis and be published to provide a degree of public transparency, without compromising personnel or animal safety, or releasing proprietary information. See: https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmlfile=chapitre_aw_research_education.htm for more information</p>
2	<p>Although I can appreciate that animal welfare is an important concept, it is probable that only a few livestock farmers in Japan considers the animal's health and mental conditions so seriously. If farmers gain a profit from "animal welfare", they may consider introducing the animal welfare, such as the improvement of quality or the decrease of disease outbreak. What do you think about this idea?</p> <hr/> <p>The vision for WOAHP's animal welfare strategy is "a world where the welfare of animals is respected, promoted and advanced, in ways that complement the pursuit of animal health, human well-being, socioeconomic development and environmental sustainability. Animal welfare is closely linked to animal health, the health and wellbeing of people, and the sustainability of socio-economic and ecological systems. Perceptions of animal welfare differ from one region to another and between one culture and another, as do in the ways animals contribute to human society. It is for this reason that the WOAHP's work in developing international standards must have a solid scientific basis, must involve wide engagement of all stakeholders, must ensure a holistic view of the systems within which animals are kept and used by humans, and must aim to have a tangible impact on the welfare of animals.</p>