



MICROBIOLOGICAL MONITORING OF LABORATORY RODENTS: TRADITIONAL AND INNOVATIVE APPROACHES

Thursday, September 26th

- 09:30 - 09:45 **Welcome and introduction to the course** (L. De Francesco & A. Gobbi)
Discussion on the experience and interests of the participants
- 09:45 - 10:30 **Why should be worried about health monitoring?** (S. Durand)
- Traditional and emerging agents
 - FELASA recommendations
- 10:30 - 10:45 **Coffee break**
- 10:45 - 11:30 **Screening of animals: Pros and CONs of traditional and new approaches** (M. Fitzner Toft)
- Methods available
 - Interpretation of results
 - Experience from the field
- 11:30 - 12:00 **Screening of biologicals: Pros and CONs of traditional and new approaches** (M. Foa)
- Methods available
 - Interpretation of results
 - Experience from the field
- 12:00 - 13:00 **Lunch**
- 13:00 - 13:45 **Impact of caging systems on prevalence of infection and on health monitoring schemes** (G. Milite)
- Open cages
 - Microisolators (static filter top cages)
 - Isolators
 - IVCs
- 13:45 - 14:30 **Innovative approaches for health monitoring** (S. Durand)
- Environmental PCR
 - EAD sampling
- 14:30 - 14:45 **Coffee break**
- 14:45 - 15:45 **Panel discussion: Interpretation of the results** (S. Durand, M. Foa, M. Fitzner Toft)
- False positives?
 - False negatives?
 - Border line results
 - Practical Examples



15:45 - 16:30 **Questions and answers**

Friday, September 27th

9:00 - 9:45 **Case study: The health monitoring program of a mouse facility**

(A. Gobbi, M. Capillo)

- Challenges
- Possible approaches
- Costs

09:45 - 10:30 **Role of pathology in HM programs (E. Scanziani)**

- Importance of pathology for the detection of infectious diseases in rodents
- Different scenario for the application of pathology in HM
- Sampling methods

10:30 - 10:45 **Coffee break**

10:45 - 11:30 **Infection detected and confirmed (A. Gobbi & G. Milite)**

- Positive findings: what to do
- Disaster plans

11:30 - 12:15 **Incoming animals (A. Gobbi & G. Milite)**

- Health certificate evaluation
- Quarantine procedures
- Alternative strategies
 - Importation of embryos
 - Rederivation by embryo-transfer
- Pros and cons of the different options

12:15 - 13:15 **Lunch**

13:15 - 14:45 **Workshop: The definition of an health monitoring program step by step**

(G. Milite & A. Gobbi)

- An hypothetical scenario will be offered to the participants together with needs and limitations
- A program will be developed by the participants with the supports of the trainers

14:45 - 15:30 **Final debriefing session (G. Milite & A. Gobbi)**

- Discussion about different experiences and approaches
- Questions and answers

The timing is indicative and may be subject to adjustment depending on the class's needs