

IACLAM: A GLOBAL ASSOCIATION OF SPECIALISTS IN LABORATORY ANIMAL MEDICINE.

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It has been a long time since the principles of the **3Rs** were proposed for performing humane animal experiments.

Although advances in bio-analytical technologies and the development of microphysiological systems (MPS), etc., have partially accomplished **REPLACEMENT** and **REDUCTION**, animal experiments are still essential for scientific research on human and animal diseases, their treatments and so on.

The welfare of laboratory animals (LAs) is an important area as **REFINEMENT** in which veterinarians should play a central role. And it is becoming globally recognized that the health and welfare should be warranted by veterinarians that are highly trained as specialists of Laboratory Animal Medicine (LAM).

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< Examples of articles presenting IACLAM's activities >

- MacArthur Clark J. (2007). A global vision for laboratory animal medicine. ALTEX 14 Suppl:735–737.
- Turner PV, et al., (2008). Harmonization of a global vision for laboratory animal medicine – The International Association of Colleges of Laboratory Animal Medicine. J Am Assoc Lab Anim Sci 47:138
- Turner PV, et al., (2013). Promoting international development of advanced training in laboratory animal medicine: IACLAM associate membership. Proceedings of the FELASA Symposium, Barcelona, Spain. J Am Assoc Lab Anim Sci 52:261
- Turner PV, et al., (2015). Roles of the international council for laboratory animal science (ICLAS) and international association of Colleges of laboratory animal medicine (IACLAM) in the global organization and support of 3Rs advances in laboratory animal science. J Am Assoc Lab Anim Sci 54:174–180.
- Turner PV, et al., (2020). Welfare Impact of Carbon Dioxide Euthanasia on Laboratory Mice and Rats: A Systematic Review. Front Vet Sci 22:7:411
- Hedenqvist P, et al., (2022) Toward Global Harmonization of Training and Certification of Specialists in Laboratory Animal Veterinary Medicine. J Am Assoc Lab Anim Sci 61:15–20

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IACLAM:

The International Association of Colleges of Laboratory Animal Medicine (IACLAM) is a Global Association of Colleges consisting of Specialists in LAM

conceived in 2005 (ACLAM, ECLAM & JCLAM), constituted in 2006 (ACLAM, ECLAM, JCLAM and KCLAM).

Appointed representatives from each College serve on the IACLAM Board of Directors (BOD).

- IACLAM has been served for numerous associations seeking advice and expertise from recognized specialists in care, use, and welfare of LAs.
- IACLAM assists individual LAM specialty organizations to promote the welfare and responsible use of LAs as our Missions.

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5-year Strategic Plans in 2020

Board of Directors of IACLAM started to discuss the Strategic Planning in 2018. The strategic plan was developed in 2019.

Charter: provide a common platform at the global level for communication by, and representation of, Diplomates of national or regional Colleges of LAM.

Missions: support individual organizations including member Colleges to promote the welfare and responsible use of laboratory animals through collaborations with veterinary specialists in the field, to promote education and training LAM, to disseminate information relevant to the field, and to serve as research partners.

Goals: 1. Ensure an efficient and effective organization
2. Enhance research animal welfare by supporting outreach, education, and training of highly qualified laboratory animal veterinarians.

(Results of Goal 2 is presented here)

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GOAL-2: Enhance research animal welfare by supporting outreach, education, and training of highly qualified laboratory animal veterinarians.

Strategies	Results	Achievements	Comments
Promote harmonization of knowledge and skills required for a newly boarded LA-vets.	Completed	Identified essential role delineation/modular structure (RDD/MST) for training document.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member College RDD/MST documents are linked from “Link & Resources” page of IACLAM website; https://www.iaclam.org/links.php • Publication: JAALAS 61(1): 15-20,2022
Support development of new Colleges of LAM	Completed	Clearly define requirements and process for Associate and Full Membership of Colleges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final document can be seen at https://www.iaclam.org/mem-become-member.php ➢ ICLAM has obtained Full-membership ➢ PCLAM has obtained Associate-membership and is preparing to have Full-membership
Promote harmonization of essential requirements for certification of Diplomate	On-going	Essential publication requirements for board eligibility was agreed.	Harmonization of other essential requirements is discussed in turn.
Communicate availability of expertise	On-going	Newsletters are annually delivered to stakeholders. Website has been upgraded.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newsletters in 2021 and 2022 are at https://www.iaclam.org/news-letters.php • IACLAM website; https://www.iaclam.org/

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Discussion and Conclusion

Animal Experiments should be conducted appropriately from the perspective of animal welfare, and promoting good welfare of LAs leads to good scientific results.

IACLAM has been serving to assist Colleges that educate, train and certificate LAM specialists as key players of effective management of animal well-being. We developed the first IACLAM strategic plan, which was helpful to recognize where IACLAM is and where IACLAM should go in the future. And the five-year plan has been progressing. Now we are reviewing the strategic plan to further promote IACLAM's activities.

Conflict of interest: Nothing to disclose.

If your College/Organization is interested in enhancing welfare of LAs in your country/region, and in communication with other specialists belonging to IACLAM, please contact us.

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