

Modern animal welfare - a central aspect of our company's services

Animals are treated with respect and dignity. The keeping and use of animals is based on the respective legal requirements, in particular Directive 2010/63/EU of the European Parliament and Council and the German Animal Protection Ordinance (TierSchVersV).

Careful records are kept of all animal experiments. This ensures the necessary continuous analysis of the data required to monitor success. The animals selected for an experimental project should be of appropriate species and quality and should be used to a suitable minimum extent in order to obtain valid results.

The animals must be housed, treated and provided with food and water in accordance with their species-specific behaviour and typical use. Appropriate health care must also be provided. The health and welfare of the animals shall be assessed on a daily basis.

Fear, pain, stress and suffering of the animals should be avoided or minimised. The procedures for keeping, caring for and using the animals are continuously evaluated and improved.

Procedures that may cause pain or stress to the animal are performed under appropriate sedation, analgesia or anaesthesia.

Animals which would otherwise suffer severe or chronic pain which cannot be alleviated shall be killed painlessly at the end of the operation or, where appropriate, during the operation.

Our employees and the study directors, deputies and other persons working directly on the animals have the qualifications and experience required for the monitoring and treatment of the animals. Appropriate training of the employees is always provided. This expressly includes the correct handling of the animals in accordance with animal welfare requirements.

Management

It is our goal to continuously improve the animal welfare in our company. Our employees check and expand their knowledge and skills in internal and external training courses.

Employees and all persons working in the company on animal experiments are requested to collect suggestions for improving animal protection as a basis for regular meetings of the animal protection committee working in the company. The implementation of the proposals of the internal animal welfare committee is explicitly monitored by the management.

The company has appointed two animal welfare officers and thus ensures the permanent monitoring of all processes relevant to animal welfare.