



Hands-on training in

**SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS
OF ANIMAL STUDIES**

**Improving transparency on quality
and translatability of animal studies**



UMC Utrecht



COURSE INFORMATION

SYRCLE (SYstematic Review Centre for Laboratory animal Experimentation) organizes, in collaboration with the department of Translational Neuroscience, UMC Utrecht Brain Center, a one-day workshop entitled:

SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS OF ANIMAL STUDIES

“Improving transparency on quality and translatability of animal studies”

In clinical research, a systematic review is already common practice. In the case of animal experimentation, however, systematic reviews are still rather uncommon, even though recent publications have shown that they have several important advantages. For example, systematic reviews may help improve the scientific quality of animal experiments, they may prevent unnecessary (duplication of) experiments and they may improve the translation of animal data to the clinic, thereby increasing patient safety. In addition, meta-analyses provide quantitative summaries of the results of the animal studies on a certain topic and may result in new insights without having to use new animals.

In this workshop, you will be introduced to the concept of systematic reviews of animal studies. Both the advantages and the limitations of systematic reviews will be discussed. Moreover, you will get the opportunity to actually practice the steps of which systematic reviews typically consist. Through this practical experience you will get a good idea about the added value of systematic reviews and about the possibilities and efforts needed for conducting such a review in your own line of research.

Since 2009, SYRCLE has been developing education, tools and guidelines to promote and facilitate the performance of systematic reviews of animal studies.

Invitation

We cordially invite you to participate in this hands-on training in systematic reviews of animal experiments.

For whom?

This hands-on training is for all (biomedical) researchers of the UMC Utrecht and/or Utrecht University, directly or indirectly involved in animal experiments. The course is open to and suitable for PhD students, postdoctoral researchers as well as more senior researchers.

This course is made possible by the ZonMW grant ‘More knowledge with fewer animals’. Participants do not have to pay a registration fee. A €50 no-show fee will be considered if cancellations are not done up to 48 hrs before the workshop.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

08.45 - 17.00

08:45 Registration

09:00 Welcome and opening

Lecture:

Introduction to systematic reviews of animals studies

PART 1 • IDENTIFYING AND SELECTING RELEVANT STUDIES

- Introductory lecture: Identify 'all' relevant animal studies
- Computer practical 1a: Develop comprehensive search strategies
- Computer practical 1b: Inclusion / exclusion of studies

PART 2 • ASSESSING STUDY VALIDITY

- Introductory lecture: Validity of animal studies
- Workshop assignment 2a: Criteria of validity
- Workshop assignment 2b: Risk of bias assessment

PART 3 • DATA EXTRACTION AND SYNTHESIS

- Introductory lecture: Data extraction and meta-analysis
- Computer practical 3a: data extraction
- Computer practical 3b: data synthesis / meta-analysis

17:00 Closure and evaluation

Evaluation previous editions workshop

"Very useful, good introduction to systematic reviews and nice that there is a combination of theory and practice!"

"Search strategy is in general useful and the next steps you need to perform are useful before you start experiments."

The average score of the last workshop was 8,5

TUTORS AND ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

TUTORS

Judith van Luijk M.Sc.

Course coordinator
SYRCLE, Central Animal Laboratory
Radboudumc

Dr Rob de Vries

Scientific researcher
SYRCLE, Central Animal Laboratory
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Alice Tillema

Information specialist Medical Library
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ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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GENERAL INFORMATION

TARGET GROUPS

This hands-on training is for (biomedical) researchers directly or indirectly involved in animal experiments. The course is open to and suitable for PhD students, postdoctoral researchers as well as more senior researchers.

WEBSITES

For background information on systematic reviews of animal studies, please visit:
www.radboudumc.nl/SYRCLE

VENUE

The training takes place at the David de Wied lecture room, Stratenum Building (4th floor), Universiteitsweg 100, 3584 CG, UMC Utrecht, Utrecht

ACCREDITATION/CERTIFICATE

- You will be awarded a certificate upon completion of the course
- Accreditation can be requested at ABAN

REGISTRATION

- You can register via the contact details below
- Participants do not have to pay a registration fee. A €50 no-show fee will be considered if cancellations are not done up to 48 hrs before the workshop.
- Please bring a laptop with wifi connection
- Lunch and coffee/tea will be provided during the breaks
- Registration will be limited to 20 participants

CONTACT DETAILS

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