

Transparency Charter for Animal Research : the dynamic continues !

40 major players in French research take stock of the second year of implementation of the Transparency Charter on the use of animals for scientific and regulatory purposes.

Why a Transparency Charter?

In February 2021, Gircor, with the support of the French Ministry for Research and Innovation, launched the Transparency Charter on the use of animals for scientific and regulatory purposes in France. The Charter brings together research institutions, universities and pharmaceutical companies. The aim of this initiative is to encourage open and transparent communication between the scientific community, the general public and the media.

This profound and essential paradigm shift is all the more necessary now that science is regularly called into question by so-called experts. In a context where misleading information and false promises abound, scientific communication and dialogue between researchers and the general public have become major challenges for our society.

The Transparency Charter is based on 4 commitments:

1. To explain the reasons for and conditions for using animals for scientific and regulatory purposes.
2. To disseminate information to the general public and the media
3. To ease information flow with the general public and the media
4. Produce an annual document outlining the progress regarding public information

The second Charter report

The Charter report is the fruit of this fourth commitment.

As was the case last year, the main aim of the signatories of the Transparency Charter on the use of animals in research is to explain to the general public the need to use animals in research. They aim to improve the image of research by highlighting recent improvements in research conditions and the integration of alternative methods. They hope that the use of animals in research will no longer be a taboo subject, emphasising that this is done in compliance with strict regulations that take animal welfare into account.

The transparency approach is still actively supported by the management and teams within the signatory establishments, although its implementation requires time, and in some cases dedicated staff. Challenges include the clear presentation of actions on websites, concerns about exposure of sites and staff, and dealing with compassion fatigue.

Despite the challenges, the drive for transparency continues to progress, and Gircor encourages its signatories to redouble their efforts to strengthen public confidence in ethical and responsible science.

Download the Transparency Charter report:
www.gircor.fr/charte-de-transparence-2022

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A propos du Gircor

Gircor is an association of public and private research and education actors who use animals for scientific purposes.

Its mission is to answer the public's questions on the use of animals and alternative methods in research, their stakes and their necessity; to contribute to the improvement of practices for ethical and responsible research through the application of the 3Rs, the development of alternative methods and the "culture of care"; to promote the transparency of structures using animals for scientific or regulatory purposes.