Laboratory Animal Necropsy or:
How to get the most out of your mouse or rat?

One-Day-Course on Small Rodent Necropsy Techniques

Course Leader: Giovanni Pellegrini, DVM, PhD

Venue: Philippe Bugnon, DVM (LTK)

Organised by the Laboratory for Animal Model Pathology (LAMP), Institute of Veterinary Pathology, Vetsuisse Faculty and by Institute for Laboratory Animal Science (LTK)

The Laboratory for Animal Model Pathology (LAMP) is a new research and service facility in the Vetsuisse Faculty that, provides research customers and collaborators with expertise on post mortem evaluation of laboratory animals. LAMP is managed by veterinary pathologists with experience in laboratory animal pathology and represents a core research facility that supports researchers at the University of Zürich and outside clients who undertake laboratory animal work which includes, for example, morphological studies to assess pathological and toxicopathological changes, specific phenotypical features and the expression/distribution of specific antigens. The laboratory also offers a range of technical services.

For optimal use of animals and data, scientists need appropriate knowledge and training. Therefore, as a relevant part of its remit, LAMP offers regular specific training sessions of particular relevance for scientists who incorporate morphological approaches into their projects.

The “One-Day-Course on Necropsy Techniques in Laboratory Animal Pathology” that we advertise here has been successfully held several times across Europe since 2011 and is now offered in Switzerland. It lays special emphasis on the mouse and rat. The training is intended for veterinarians and scientists who are planning to or are already undertaking experimental animal work that includes aspects of laboratory animal pathology. The programme will comprise lectures and an extensive practical session, delivered by Dr. Giovanni Pellegrini, a laboratory animal pathologist with extensive experience in particular in all theoretical and practical aspects of toxicological pathology, from study planning to final interpretation.
Programme

1. Introduction
   a. Macroscopic observations: a powerful tool
   b. Different study types, different needs

2. Examples from the industry: what we need to import in our daily job
   a. Preclinical toxicity studies: protocols and GLP
   b. Standardisation of gross findings

3. Getting ready to necropsy
   a. Material
   b. Rodents and their anatomical and physiological peculiarities
   c. Tissue collection
      i. Organ weights: "banal" recommendations
      ii. Specific procedures (eg. bone marrow smears, TEM, metabolism...)
      iii. Early deaths: a story apart
   d. Trimming and processing
      i. Standard guidelines
      ii. General tips

4. The Necropsy, Theory and Practice
   [The goal of this session is to go through a full necropsy, step by step, and at the same time view slides that demonstrate the relevance of each step, showing the most frequent findings encountered in each organ system, tissue collection techniques etc.]

Note: The time to be spent on each topic and the amount of detail may vary according to the preferences of the audience.

Number of participants

The number of participants is limited to allow a successful practical session, and places are offered on a first-come, first-serve basis. Should there be a large number of participants, we will organise two practical sessions, one in the afternoon of the first day and the second in the morning of the next day.

If you have any queries or require further information about the content of the course, please email to Giovanni Pellegrini <giovanni.pellegrini@uzh.ch>

Prof Dr. Anja Kipar