SPCAL
Sociedade Portuguesa de Ciências em Animais de Laboratório



BROADENING HORIZONS: BEYOND CONVENTIONAL MODELS

DAY 1
(19 NOV'26)

Time	Session
8h30	Reception/ Registration desk
9h30	**Congress Welcome and Opening Session**
	Session 1 – Natural and comparative animal models **Chairs – Magda Castelhano Carlos, Paula Mota**
9h50	Broadening horizons: beyond conventional models – What is this all about? - Berta São Braz, FMV-ULisboa
10h00	Is the dog (still) an atopic patient's best friend? - Mafalda Lourenço, FMV - ULisboa
10h20	**Keynote Lecture**: From the vivarium to deep time: tracing the origins of warm blood **-** Ricardo Araújo, CERENA, IST-ULisboa
11h00	**Coffee break with exhibitors**
11h30	**Session 2 - New approach methodologies** **Chairs – Frederico Aires da Silva, Nuno Coelho**
1h30	Which Came First? The Chicken Embryo as a Research Model or NAMs - Marta Pinto, i3S - UPorto
11h50	NAMs in Vision Science: Retinal Organoids for Disease Modeling and Translational Research - Sandra Tenreiro, NMS-NOVA
12h10	A new device to model breast cancer brain metastases for drug screening – Vera Neves, Miguel Castanho Lab, GIMM, FM-ULisboa
12h30	Preclinical studies: collaboration between academia and industry - Ana Simões, COLAB - Vector B2B
13h00	**Lunch with Exhibitors**

	Session 3 - Clinical research and regulatory ecosystem **Chairs – Berta São Braz, Flávio Reis**
14h30	Using wildlife species in research: logistical and legal challenges - Fábio Santos, INIAV
14h50	Patient Discovery: bringing science and patients together – Nuno Gonçalves, EARA
15h10	Broadening Horizons: Legal Framework and Challenges in the Use of Non-Conventional Animal Models - Ana P. Martins, DGAV
15h50	New resources Improving LAS Education and Training across Europe - Ana Isabel Moura Santos, NMS-NOVA, SPCAL
16h10	Updates on FELASA's accreditation system: supporting high-quality education and training in Laboratory Animal Sciences - Magda Castelhano-Carlos, ICVS-UMinho
16h30	**Coffee break with exhibitors**
	Session 4 - The 3 Rs: focus on the refinement **Chairs – Dolores Bonaparte, Sofia Leocádio**
17h00	**Keynote Lecture:** Clean Cuts: Refining Aseptic Technique in Rodent Surgery - Delphine Bouard, Vetsalius
17h30	**Selected Oral communications** **17:30** Beyond conventional experimental models: an *ex vivo* equine endometrial model for studying hormone-dependent NGF and TGF-β1 expression – Ana Amaral **17:40** From Wild to Captive and Back: Parasite Dynamics in Wood Mice - Maílis Carrilho **17:50** The Wood Mouse as a Non-Traditional System for the Study of Metabolic and Glycaemic Regulation Under Distinct Thermal Challenges - Pierina Mendoza **18:00** Beyond "One-Size-Fits-All": Optimization of a species-specific *in vitro* model to simulate marine fish gastrointestinal digestion - Ana Maulvault
20h00	**Congress Dinner**

DAY 2

(20 NOV'26)

Time	**Session**
	Session 5 – The 3 Rs: focus on the refinement (Continued) **Chairs – Ana Isabel Santos, Manuel Rebelo**
9h00	Designated Veterinarian, a refinement catalyst - Daniel Gomes da Costa, GIMM
9h20	More than a tail: refinements in Zebrafish research – Ana Maria Valentim, Laboratory Animal Science, i3S - UPorto
9h40	Better Welfare, Better Science: Refining Animal Models of Pain – Ana Rosa Abreu, Sea4Us

10h00	**Keynote Speaker:** Smarter Monitoring, Better Science: The Role of Home Cage Technologies in Animal Welfare - Jordi Tremoleda, Queen Mary University of London
10h50	**Coffee break with exhibitors**
11h20	From Installation to Impact: The DVC Experience at CDP-UMCG - Catriene Thuring, University Medical Centre Groningen
11h50	Refining blood sampling in rodents: reflections from the FELASA Working Group – Dolores Bonaparte, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW)
	Session 6 - Farm animals as biomedical models **Chair – Anabela Moreira**
12h10	Mending the Broken Heart: Novel therapies in translational Large-Animal Models - Pedro Mendes Ferreira, FM-UPorto
12h40	**Lunch (Exhibitors)**
	Session 7 - Laboratory animal science - conventional models **Chairs – Nuno Coelho, Magda Castelhano-Carlos**
14h00	"Time for recess!" Refining rat cage enrichment - Márcia Silva (GIMM)
14h20	Zebrafish in Biomedical Research: Navigating Between NAMs and Animal Models - Ana Borges, GIMM
14h40	Neural circuits of social cognition in rodents – Natália Madeira, CNC-UC
15h00	Beyond Conventional Rat Models: Expanding Translational Perspectives in Cardiometabolic Disease - António Júnior, NMS-NOVA
15h30	**Coffee break**
	Session 8 - Oral communications **Chairs – Berta São Braz, José Sereno**
16h00	**16:00** Targeting NADPH Oxidase to Mitigate β-Amyloid and A11 Oligomer Accumulation in an in vivo Model of Parkinson's Disease – Rita Curto **16:10** Home cage activity of female Wistar rats: a retrospective analysis of control animals. Dora Pinho / Ana Charrua **16:20** Can diets fortified with bioactive peptides reduce stress in adult zebrafish? Ana Valentim **16:30** Effects of sub-lethal exposure to bromadiolone and brodifacoum on coagulation time, renal and hepatic biomarkers, and spatial working memory in Wistar rats: corn silage as a potential mitigator - Sofia Gabriel **16:40** Effects of different food restriction strategies on operant behavior and physiological parameters in Wistar rats – Júlia Andrade
17h00	**Closing Ceremony (and Awards)**

We gratefully acknowledge the support of our sponsors



























