Improving animal research: Reporting animal research-data sharing

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Data sharing- a funder’s view

• Commitment to maximising the value of data generated from research- including research using animals

• Appropriate reporting of outputs can:
  • Enhance study design;
  • Avoid duplication; and
  • Reduce animals used.

• Commitment of sector required to address data sharing challenges
Sharing animal models and research outputs

- Promotion of use of existing animal models and interrogation of existing data:
  - INFRFAFRONTIERS/EMMA, IMPC
  - Encouragement to develop research and analysis tools to better interrogate existing data generated from research using animal models.

- Sharing research data:
  - eTRIKS, FigShare, Dryad-however data unstructured- challenge of solutions for data discoverability
Publication of results

Issues:

• Publication of results
  • Data sharing: critical to enhancing reproducibility
  • Improves quality of future work, maximises knowledge already gained

• Challenges:
  • Little incentive and few avenues to publish ‘negative’ or ‘null’ findings.
Emerging issues and challenges

- How can we incentivise publication of results?
- Can we develop a vocabulary flexible enough to include all research results in a format easily interrogated across various areas of research?
- Which aspects should funders seek to take a lead, and which should we look to the community to lead?

Current and upcoming initiatives:

- eLife: Reproducibility Project
- AMS/BBSRC/MRC/WT Symposium on ‘Reproducibility and reliability of biomedical research’.
- NC3Rs: ‘Publication bias’ workshop