

## **Kick-off meetings as a tool to improve communication**

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Before a research project or a new part of it starts, it is time for a kick-off meeting with researchers, animal caretakers, technicians, facility's responsible person and a veterinarian. The main parts of the project are gone through, what will be done and when, how many animals are involved and when the experiment will end. The critical parts of the project are highlighted, and the responsibilities are agreed, for example how often the animals are monitored, who will do that, and what actions are taken if found necessary. An important part of the kick-off meeting is ensuring the humane endpoints according to the licence and all possible refinements to be used.