

## Report about trip to IDIBELL in Barcelona, Spain, November 2023

In July 2021 I received ICLAS Visiting Grant for Professional Development in LAS in Europe. But due to coronavirus pandemic I couldn't make the trip.

In November 2023 I decided to use this opportunity. I was lucky enough to get acquainted with the animal facility of the IDIBELL Institute. The main goal of research is aimed at treating cancer. I met wonderful people, who did everything possible to provide me with as much information as possible about the work of the animal facility by showing and telling. Technical staff was also kind. I watched for work in the washing and sterilization units, animal's rooms.

The head of animal facility (she is veterinarian and animal's welfare officer too) showed me her typical work day as a veterinarian in the animal facility. She told me about her view on the health monitoring and how it's organized. We spoke a lot about laboratory animal's diseases and manifestations of clinical signs in different strains of mice. She told me about cases of diseases in mice and how they identified the cause, what measures were taken to prevent similar situations in the future. We also discussed the work of bioethical commissions (IACUC). I was showed how she places newcomer mice from provider.

My colleague asked to find out about AAALAC accreditation. Veterinarian's stance on this was very inspiring and hopeful. I hope that one day we will be able to obtain accreditation.

I got few interesting finds about using IVC racks and whole IVC system.

There is also big zebrafish facility. I spent one day with Helena who takes care of zebrafishes.

At the end of my visit it was very kind of head of animal facility at let me contact her with any questions I get regarding the work of a veterinarian.

Elena.