Continuing education in the use of laboratory animals

KEKS seminar
The three Rs in metabolism research

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Competence of personnel

- People working with laboratory animals shall be adequately educated and trained before they perform any of the functions:
  - a) Carrying out procedures on animals
  - b) Designing procedures and projects
  - c) Taking care of animals
  - d) Killing animals

- Courses for each function:
  - First theory then practice
  - Competence after supervision and showing skills
Continuous professional development

- Competence is not everlasting – it must be maintained through continuing education
- No real guidance yet from EU – or Finland
- FELASA recommendations for CPD
- Training should be mutually recognized and the records transferable
What does this mean in practice?

- You need to participate in the relevant lab animal education, like this 3Rs seminar
- Hands-on skills must be maintained and updated whenever needed
  - New procedures or working with new species must be shown to supervisor or KEKS personnel before individual working – theory must be also updated when needed (new species)
  - Fresh-up sessions will start in KEKS
What does this mean in practice?

- Record keeping is important
  - Certificates are asked before you can start working
- In KEKS, Provet programme is being updated
  - In your own page you can add the information of your education, courses and training with certificates
- The aim is to harmonize education and training and facilitate free movement of persons working with lab animals