



Conditions for grant approval to projects that, according to Swedish law, requires an Ethics approval from an Ethics committee, but where experimental animals are not located in Sweden or Norway

The strategic plan of the Swedish-Norwegian foundation for Equine research includes the principal values of the foundation where "Ethics" and "Quality" are two included vision sections where "*trustworthy sustainable research*" and "*good research- and animal ethics*" are mentioned and where "*quality should be fundamental for the work of the foundation*". These mantras are central to all research areas and processes of the foundation, also including projects where the use of horses in experimental situations may be necessary to achieve the foundation vision "Nordic horse research – world leading".

It is inevitable that research projects in some of the foundation research areas requires the use of horses as experimental animals, which in such case should be evaluated by an Ethics committee or equivalent for approval. Approval must be issued by the relevant Ethics committee and presented to the Foundation secretariat before the project can begin. All EU countries must follow the common EU directive (2010/63/EU) regarding this matter;" Protection of animals used for scientific purposes", the national Swedish application for the directive is stated in "Jordbruksverkets föreskrift SJVFS 2019:9 (saknr. L 150)".

Research activities today are globalized and built on worldwide research collaborations, to optimize the use of eg. special competences, experiences, advanced animal facilities and analyzing equipment. As a result, the foundation has received applications including research activities where horses will be used in studies that will require an Ethics approval if executed in Sweden or Norway, but where included experimental animals are located in another country. The foundation would like to clearly emphasize the obvious fact that all projects applying for funding from the foundation must follow the national regulations and the EU directive (2010/63/EU) or equivalent in the matter, regardless of geographical location of experimental horses, for both legal and ethical reasons. If experimental studies on horses are performed outside Sweden or Norway but included in a research project that is partly or fully funded by the foundation, the main applicant must ensure that an Ethics approval equivalent to the high demands in Sweden and Norway are obtained, and that the handling and care of these animals does not differ from the ethical principals stated in the EU directive (2010/63/EU) and the national Swedish regulations (L 150).

If a project includes interventions on horses, that according to Swedish legislations needs an Ethics approval but where horses are kept outside Sweden or Norway, the main applicant must clearly describe why trials are not possible to execute in Sweden or Norway. Further, the foundation will specifically consider the conditions and terms regarding ethics and animal welfare in the review process and during the decision of a possible approval for funding, based on documented information (below). The documentation must clearly prove that the use of horses in experimental situations are not more allowing in an ethical- and animal welfare aspect than if the trials would be located inside Sweden or Norway. To enable this consideration regarding ethics and animal welfare, the main applicant needs to include required information in this form (below) as well as necessary supporting documentation to the stage 2 application in order for it to be reviewed. An Ethics approval must be issued by the relevant Ethics committee in Sweden or equivalent agency in another country and presented to the foundation secretariat without request before the project can begin. If an application includes interventions on horses physically located in another country than Sweden or Norway, where an Ethics approval would be required if executed in Sweden, the main applicant needs to guarantee (by signing this form) that the planned study will not be more allowing than what a Swedish or Norwegian Ethics committee would allow, from an ethical and animal welfare perspective.

1. Main applicant

Full name	E-mail
Organization	Department

2. Collaborator outside Sweden or Norway

Full name	E-mail
Organization	Department
Full address	Country

3. Project details

Project start (yyyy-mm-dd)	Project end (yyyy-mm-dd)

Project title (Swedish)
Project title (English)

4. Trials are located in another EU-country (Not Sweden)

Yes No

If yes, why could the research not be performed in Sweden/Norway?
If yes, does the project apply for Ethics approval in the collaborating country?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Please explain why if answering "No":

5. Trials are located in country outside EU (Not Norway)

Yes **No**

If yes, why could the research not be performed in Sweden/Norway?
If yes, does the project apply for Ethics approval in the collaborating country?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Please explain why if answering "No":

6. Declaration of ethical aspect

Does the handling and use of horses for experimental activities in the study, according to your judgement, fulfill the ethical principles stated in the EU directive (2010/63/EU) and the national Swedish provisions (L 150), and will the study not be more allowing, from an ethical and animal welfare perspective, than what would be approved in a regional Ethics committee in Sweden?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Please explain why if answering "No":

Signatures

This document should be signed by below mentioned parties, scanned, and submitted as attachment to the application/report.

I/we hereby ensure that above stated information is correct and that I/we take responsibility for the execution of the project.

City	Date
Signature (main applicant)	
Printed name	

City	Date
Signature informed manager (head of department or equivalent)	
Printed name	