Before being placed on the market inactivated vaccines are predominantly tested in vivo, mainly in laboratory animals.

In recent years, substantial efforts have been made either to modify these animal tests in order to reduce the number of required animals and the stress imposed on them (Refinement) or to completely replace these experiments by in-vitro tests. The acceptance of these tests differs considerably between vaccine manufacturers and licensing authorities. It is thus comprehensible that vaccine manufacturers hesitate to adopt the new test methods.

The aim of the meeting is to enhance the acceptance of the new test methods by all licensing authorities (Europe/USA) and their application by all vaccine manufacturers.