

## **Charité 3<sup>R</sup> – 3R implementation at a university hospital - How can a medical faculty enhance application of the 3Rs?**

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Charité, the university hospital in Berlin, is the joint medical faculty of the Freie Universität Berlin and the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, and conducts about 50.000 animal experiments per year for biomedical research. Since 2018, it actively strengthens the in-house implementation of the 3Rs by the foundation of Charité 3<sup>R</sup>. Charité 3<sup>R</sup> is a body of the faculty and supports 3R research and education by funding research projects, workshops and courses. These measures are accompanied by communication and outreach activities.

The vision of Charité 3<sup>R</sup> is to better understand, diagnose and treat human diseases by fostering the principles of the 3Rs, which comes along with a cultural change within the field of biomedical research. Three strategic aims support this vision: 1. Ensure the principles of the 3Rs are clearly reflected within the areas of teaching and learning at Charité. 2. Ensure Charité 3<sup>R</sup> initiates Berlin-wide research collaborations aimed at promoting the principles of the 3Rs. 3. Ensure Charité 3<sup>R</sup> secures new strategic partners across national and international borders in order to develop joint concepts for the rapid and rigorous implementation of the 3Rs. The strategic aims are implemented by numerous measures in the three pillars communication, education and research. Collaboration with strong partners is an essential part of Charité 3<sup>R</sup>'s work. Together with FU, HU and TU Berlin as well as BfR, RKI and MDC, Charité 3<sup>R</sup> has raised funding for the Einstein Center 3R (EC3R), a Berlin-wide collaboration for alternative methods in biomedical research funded with up to € 5.3 million until the year 2026 by the Einstein Foundation Berlin.