

Master thesis title: Views on the implementation of 3R in Switzerland: a qualitative exploration

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Project description:

The Institute for Biomedical Ethics is looking for Master's students who would like to participate in our research on 3R implementation in Switzerland as part of their studies.

The 3R – replacement (replacing animal testing), reduction (reducing the number of animals in an experiment), and refinement (limiting suffering) – are now widely accepted in the scientific community, but also beyond. Various studies show that scientists support the idea of the 3R as an ethical principle, although they point out some actual limitations in its implementation in practice.

Our current project therefore aims to enable a clear picture of the barriers when it comes to implementing the 3R in Switzerland and to develop recommendations on how these could be improved. Specifically, the project focuses on views “from the inside”, by targeting the perspectives from various scientific stakeholders in specific fields (cardiovascular research, neurosciences, immunology, haemato-oncology and developmental biology).

The aim of this Master's thesis project is to investigate these perspectives by using interviews with key national stakeholders (researchers specialized in *in vivo* animal experimentation, researcher specialized in replacement methodologies, animal attendants, policymakers, etc.). While partaking in this project, the student will learn how to obtain and analyze qualitative data and will gain new insights on animal research ethics. The results will be processed in the form of scientific publications.