

Reading instructions for the LUMC Research Code

The LUMC Research Code¹ describes the framework (legal and otherwise) for conducting research, and serves as a point of reference in the dialogue between researchers and research groups on matters of ethical research and the dilemmas that accompany it.

Modular

The Code has a modular structure. Besides the framework mentioned above, it also describes what procedure to follow if that framework is suspected or known to have been breached. The final chapter of the Code includes some LUMC-specific guidelines.

The Code is not comprehensive, nor does it try to be. If no regulations are described for a particular element, it does not mean that none apply in specific situations. We all have a degree of responsibility here, and we ask that you report anything that might have been overlooked when drafting this code.

We recommend consulting the following frameworks (and any others that are relevant):

- The page on the website of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) that is devoted to Research Integrity
- Central Committee on Research Involving Human Subjects (CCMO)
- The 2019 version of the document published by the Netherlands Federation of University Medical Centres (NFU) on quality assurance in research involving human subjects

For whom this Code is intended

This Code is intended for all regular and visiting staff and students (including clinical rotation students) who are involved in research at the LUMC.

Interactive

The Code is available online. It will be reviewed at least once every year to establish whether it is still current in light of developments, and will be updated or expanded as necessary. This is an interactive process, and everyone is asked to contribute.

Where a breach of research integrity is suspected, the list of acts that, at a minimum, are considered to constitute breaches of research integrity, will serve as a concrete point of reference in investigations by the Committee Scientific Integrity.

The Code and the LUMC research organisation

The LUMC encourages and enables its people to carry out their research in accordance with the frameworks provided, for example:

- through the activities of the Good Research Practice Committee (GRP helpdesk, ISO standards for research laboratories, electronic lab journal, monitoring investigator-initiated research, streamlining the application process)

¹ Based on the Netherlands Code of Conduct for Research Integrity (2018)

- by setting up the Research Support Desk
- by having the Medical Ethical Committee (CME) screen research, whether or not it falls within the scope of applicability of the Dutch Medical Research (Human Subjects) Act.

The period ahead will be used to consolidate the position of the Departmental Scientific Committees ([procedure](#) and [format regulations](#) in iProva, only available in Dutch), assess and update our training on matters of research integrity, and consider what we can do to improve awareness of integrity. We will involve researchers (and particularly young researchers) in these initiatives.

How do I find what I need to know, and who should I contact if I have any questions?

Infographic [‘LUMC Research Support: where to go?’](#) (Albinusnet).

‘LUMC Research Support: where to go?’ is a guide to everything that the LUMC possesses in terms of research. This includes not only the research facilities, but also expertise on matters such as methodology and statistics in research, as well as information and support relating to Good Research Practice.

Examples include:

[EU Grants Tool](#) (Albinusnet)

[Research Support Desk](#) (Albinusnet)

[GRP helpdesk](#) (Albinusnet, only available in Dutch)

[CME informal consultation hours](#) (only available in Dutch)

[Confidential Advisor](#)

[Committee Scientific Integrity](#)

Contact

If any part of this LUMC Research Code is incomplete, despite our best efforts, or if you have any suggestions about adding information or changing the text, please contact

[Professor Suzanne Cannegieter](#) (Clinical Epidemiology) of [Yvonne Mees ten Oever](#) (Directorate of Research Policy).