

MIC price list

Effective from 1st of October 2023

Members of the University of Bern as well as external researchers are welcome to use the instruments registered at the MIC and the services offered by the MIC.

The MIC offers free services in the form of initial contact and support for ongoing projects as follows:

- Initial contact for research projects, e.g., with regard to applying for grants. It is the first contact between the customer and the MIC. The initial contact aims to identify and specify the support, services and tools needed.
- Support in the selection of suitable microscopes, purchases, and upgrades. Negotiations with companies. Solving of specific hardware or software problems. Advice on project development.

The use of the MIC instruments and the fee-based services are billed on an hourly basis. The fees of the MIC are SNF eligible costs and listed on page 2 according to the category.

- Usage of a conventional system (category 1), with or without operator.
Instruments of the category 1 are standard widefield instruments or equivalents.
- Usage of an advanced system (category 2), with or without operator¹.
Advanced systems are confocal microscopes, mass cytometer and imaging mass cytometer or equivalents.
- Usage of a sophisticated machine (category 3), with or without operator.
Sophisticated machines are electron microscopes, micro-computer tomography systems, or equivalents.
- Services.
Examples for services are as follows. Introduction of new users into microscope handling²; Troubleshooting in complex settings. Operator for mass cytometer and imaging mass cytometer. Development of analysis pipelines exploiting pre-existing software. Processing imaging data.
- Research & Development.
Research and Development is provided and relates to research projects beyond regular MIC service.

Several preparation methods for LM and EM, including **chemical fixation, embedding, contrasting, high-pressure freezing, cryo-substitution, ultramicrotomy, cryo-ultramicrotomy, critical point drying and sputtering** are available as additional charged services in the MIC institutions hosting the instruments. Other examples include **cutting tissue sections** and **antibody staining** for mass cytometry and imaging mass cytometry. Rates of these services are determined individually according to operating expenses. Please also note that **image processing services** may be required by the device operator and must be considered separately.

For long-term experiments or power users, special rates might be arranged with the corresponding device administrators. Users of all devices have to follow the regulations of the respective institutes. The MIC recommends using the [Device Request Form](#), downloadable from the MIC webpage. Prices do not include VAT and are valid for members of the University of Bern. Users from external institutions will be charged at a higher rate.

Bern, September 25, 2023

Professor
Britta Engelhardt
MIC chairperson
Medical Faculty

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Michael Raissig
MIC board
Science Faculty

Professor
Sabine Kässmeyer
MIC board
Vetsuisse Faculty

Professor
Ruth Lyck
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¹ Mass cytometer and imaging mass cytometer operators are billed as a service.

² You may additionally be charged for using the instrument.

Operational and service costs for the common research facility MIC (Microscopy Imaging Center) of the University of Bern

			Kat. 1, Conventional System	Kat. 1, with operator Conventional System	Kat. 2, Advanced System	Kat. 2, with operator Advanced System	Kat. 3, Electron Microscopy and others	Kat. 3, with Operator Electron Microscopy and others	Services, Research & Development Introduction of new users. Troubleshooting in complex settings. Development of analysis pipelines exploiting pre-existing software.
using the example of 3 different typical microscopes									
Hourly operational costs, CHF									
User fee 1	Direct costs (eligible)								
		1,1 Salaries and social charges of operational personnel	18,50	68,50	24,67	74,00	31,00	93,00	93,00
		1,2 Consumables	5,61	5,61	7,34	7,34	16,67	16,67	
		1,3 Fluid costs							
		1,4 Energy (for equipment where this variable cost is significant)							
		1,5 Goods of non-enduring value (≤ 4 years)	2,36	2,36	19,03	19,03	29,14	29,14	
		1,6 Others							
		Total direct costs	CHF 26,47	76,47	51,04	100,37	76,81	138,81	93,00
	Other direct costs (non-eligible)								
		2,1 Salaries and social charges of maintenance personnel	1,97	1,97	4,93	4,93	4,93	4,93	
		2,2 Maintenance contracts (annual preventive maintenance), repair	2,38	2,38	8,60	8,60	27,93	27,93	
		2,3 Depreciation	8,86	8,86	81,71	81,71	75,79	75,79	
		2,4 Others costs directly linked to the infrastructure	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	
		Total other direct costs	CHF 13,21	13,21	95,24	95,24	108,65	108,65	
Indirect costs (non-eligible)									
	3,1 Salaries and social charges of administrative personnel	1,55	2,57	1,55	2,57	2,57	3,21		
	3,2 Salaries and social charges of central services personnel	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00		
	3,3 Rent and running expenses of the platform	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00		
	3,4 Other indirect and overhead costs	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00		
	Total indirect costs	CHF 1,55	2,57	1,55	2,57	2,57	3,21		
Total yearly operational costs (OPEX)		CHF 41,23	92,25	147,83	198,18	188,03	250,67	93,00	
Verkaufspreis pro Leistung (in CHF/h or /unit)			25,00	75,00	50,00	100,00	75,00	125,00	93,00
	U.1 User fee 1 (direct costs)	CHF/h 26,47	76,47	51,04	100,37	76,81	138,81	93,00	
	U.2 User fee 2 (direct costs + other direct costs)	CHF/h 39,68	89,68	146,28	195,61	185,46	247,46	93,00	
	U.3 User fee 3 (direct costs + other direct costs + indirect costs)	CHF/h 41,23	92,25	147,83	198,18	188,03	250,67	93,00	

Sample instrument of category 1
Sample instrument of category 2
Sample instrument of category 3

AB210.10.04.012 Leica microscope (DBMR)
AB220.10.15.002 LSM 880 (Institute of Anatomy)
AB220.10.14.001/DB220.10.14.001 Scanning EM FEI Quanta