



Institute of Evolutionary Medicine (IEM)

Annual Report 2022 – Management Summary (English Version)

In the year under review, the Institute for Evolutionary Medicine (IEM) further strengthened its position as an internationally unique institution with around 50 employees. This was achieved in particular through the numerous local and international research and teaching collaborations.

The current reporting year was also partially influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic (conversion of institute events to virtual or hybrid, postponement of trips, in particular field research, research partly on the topic of the pandemic, etc.). In addition, the continued commitment of the Institute Director as Dean of the Medical Faculty UZH continues to have an impact on the Institute.

Over 70 scientific publications were published in the reporting year, for example in *Nature*, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, *Scientific Reports*, *Biology*, *European Journal of Public Health*.

Third-party funds were also successfully acquired again and several SNF-funded projects were running. Highlights in the year under review were, for example, the further establishment of the new state-of-the-art ancient proteomics laboratory, the successful evaluation of the institute by the UZH evaluation office, and again the institute's research activities, which received enormous attention worldwide. In the year under review, the Institute Director also co-managed the first competence center at UZH to encompass all faculties, the UZH Center for Crisis Competence, and continued as President of the world's leading professional society, the "International Society for Evolution, Medicine and Public Health". Since August 2022 he has also been the new Ambassador/Head of the Alliance of Academic Health Centers International (AAHCI) European Regional Office. The director of the institute was also involved in founding the One Health Institute, which was made possible by UZH Transform contributions. Due to the retirement of the longstanding Vice Director of the IEM, KD Dr. med. Thomas Böni, the position of Vice Director IEM has been filled by Prof. Adrian Jäggi. In 2022, the number of qualification theses at the IEM increased again.

In the teaching area, the scope was maintained, and the teaching was again predominantly rated as very good by the students.

A better allocation of space at the essential location of Irchel and the intended consolidation of academic management functions at the institute are also important for the future development of the IEM. Gender equality and the promotion of young talent remain an explicit goal at the IEM. Finally, the employees of the IEM were involved in numerous scientific and non-university committees and services, which is important for the positive outreach of the institute.