



Institute of Evolutionary Medicine (IEM)

Annual Report 2024 – Management Summary (English Version)

During the reporting year, the Institute of Evolutionary Medicine (IEM) further strengthened its position as an internationally unique institution with around 40 employees. This was achieved in particular through numerous local and international research and teaching collaborations.

Over 40 scientific publications were published during the reporting year, for example in *Nature*, *Nature Ecology and Evolution*, *Current Biology*, *The Lancet*, *Journal of Anatomy*, etc. The ongoing time-consuming commitment of the Institute Director as Dean of the UZH Faculty of Medicine continues to have an impact on the Institute.

Similarly, third-party funding was again successfully acquired in the reporting year, and several SNSF-funded projects were underway. The number of seminar talks, symposia, research projects, and committees for master's and PhD theses involving clinicians continued to increase (currently, around 30 clinicians are collaboration partners).

Highlights of the reporting year included the celebration of the IEM's 10th anniversary and the institute's research activities, which once again attracted enormous international attention. The institute director continued to co-lead the UZH Center for Crisis Competence and served as past president of the world's leading professional association, the International Society for Evolution, Medicine, and Public Health.

He also continued to serve as ambassador/head of the AAHCI European Regional Office and was actively involved in the management of the One Health Institute. In 2024, a large number of qualification theses were again completed at the IEM.

In terms of teaching, the scope remained largely unchanged, and students again rated the teaching as very good.

In the reporting year, the IEM implemented several recommendations from last year's evaluation; some are still pending but have already been initiated. Better space allocation at the essential Irchel campus remains very important for the future development of the IEM.

Gender equality and the promotion of young talent remain explicit goals at the IEM.

Finally, IEM employees were involved in numerous scientific and non-university committees and services, which is important for the institute's positive outreach.