

Cost Sharing and Collaboration at MIC

Users should read and understand these policies and if necessary clarify the terms with the MIC leader before starting projects at MIC.

MIC has an explicit policy on sharing of costs and service versus collaboration, based on the policy determined by the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry (<http://www.uib.no/mofa/67221/kostnadsdeling-og-medforfatterskap>), at the University of Bergen.

This policy implies that all researchers in Norway, meaning users from the Norwegian University/College sector as well as from the Health Enterprises, are granted access on equal terms to our imaging equipment. This also implies sharing of costs to run and keep the instruments.

Users from the private industry are also granted access to knowledge and instrumentation at MIC, but must cover full costs for the services used (see price list).

- **The prices listed on the MIC web page involve cost sharing.**

This means that the contributions that users are asked to pay do not cover the full cost of the services listed. All funds that the users contribute with, will be dedicated to the running of the particular instrument used, in order to fulfill the aim of keeping the MIC instrumentation in the forefront, and offering the best possible imaging equipment to the research community.

- **Service terms imply that user payment is required without a demand of co-authorship.**

The imaging and subsequent analysis is then performed by the individual user, after being certified by MIC personnel on the particular instrument. Costs for use of the instruments and sample preparation is paid for as listed on the web page.

If necessary parts of or all of the imaging can be performed by MIC technical staff according to standardized protocols (without method development). Personnel costs will then have to be paid for by the individual user as listed, in addition to the instrument costs.

Under the terms where the users cover the listed costs, there are no obligations towards providing co-authorship. However, the following sentence must be listed in the **acknowledgment** of any publication entailing work performed at MIC:

"The imaging was performed at the Molecular Imaging Center (MIC) and was thus supported by the Department of Biomedicine and the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, at the University of Bergen, and its partners."

In **slide presentations** the user must acknowledge MIC by writing:

"Imaged at MIC, Dept. of Biomedicine, UoB".

- **Collaboration terms imply that both co-authorship and user payment is required.**

In this situation, the scientific or highly qualified technical staff contributes actively towards resolving the research questions by contributing outside of standardized protocols. In compliance with the [Vancouver rules](#), any contribution of MIC personnel, technical or scientific, involving experimental design, customizing protocols, method development, manuscript writing, image analysis and interpretation and discussion of data from the performed imaging will qualify to co-authorship. The amount of work performed by MIC personnel leading to a manuscript should then be reflected in the author list rank.

In cases where collaborative scientific work are performed by MIC personnel, alternative pricing may be offered by MIC and will be agreed upon between the MIC leader and the collaborator prior to initiation of the project. However the costs for instrument use and sample preparation must still be covered by the user.

For projects demanding a high number of hours of assisted use, a reduced amount of hours paid for by the user may be settled after individual agreement with the MIC leader prior to initiation of the project. The MIC personnel benefiting from co-authorship can also decide to cover parts of these costs from own funding as exemplified below.

- **The costs to be covered by a user may be reduced when other collaborators, f.i. MIC scientific staff, decides to cover parts of the cost with their own funds.**

In some cases where collaboration will be called for, it could be an overlap with the research fields of the scientific staff at MIC. In such cases, the MIC researcher in question can decide to designate own technical resources or to cover parts of the technical assistance and instrument use charged by MIC, with own funding. This should be agreed upon in beforehand or as early as possible. The MIC leader should always be informed about such arrangements.

- **The costs to be covered by a user may be reduced when MIC personnel performs method development.**

In cases where there is a clear overlap between methods needed by the user and methods that would be beneficial to establish at MIC, reduced price on the technical contribution may be discussed. This must be agreed upon in beforehand with the MIC leader.