

Summary of the AR&D research institute

- Amsterdam Reproduction & Development (AR&D) is one of eight research institutes at Amsterdam UMC, comprising about 450 researchers (75 principal investigators) and around 50 PhD dissertations annually.
- The ambition of AR&D is to enhance the field of reproduction and development and to sustainably improve health care for (prospective) parents and children and as such improve health for future generations.
- The research institute is exceptional in the Netherlands, and is unique in its goals. It covers four research themes that comprise the full Circle of Life: preconception and conception; embryonic and fetal development; pregnancy and birth; and child development.
- AR&D focuses on innovation and excellence, and connects leading scientists of different disciplinary backgrounds, including clinicians active both in clinical care and research, but also fundamental researchers, epidemiologists, psychologists, and social scientists.
- AR&D aims to support networking which ensures high-impact publications, talent development and translational research. Over the period 2017-2019, collaboration of research groups within the institute across Amsterdam UMC increased, and people from the different disciplines encountered each other much more often.
- By awarding grants, AR&D supports researchers to collaborate, to climb up the ladder and attract new (external) funds.
- About 700 peer-reviewed publications are published each year. Even more, significant contributions to society make AR&D a relevant partner for public, patient and policy organizations.
- Highlights over the period 2017-2019 includes the first two-day AR&D Annual Retreat, increased collaboration, the percentage of open access publications increasing to 75%, and high societal impact projects.
- In the coming years AR&D will continue to focus on Open Science, so data will be accessible and controllable for peers and caretakers from all over the world can access state of the art results in the field of reproduction and development.
- AR&D will keep hosting additional (semi-annual) meetings for PhD candidates to get in contact with (the board of) AR&D and each other, and will offer training on a diversity of topics during the AR&D retreats to underline Amsterdam UMC's goal of investing in talented teams.
- AR&D will continue to support a healthy academic culture by taking into account gender and (scientific) diversity, and by focusing on science integrity and social safety.

For more information on AR&D, please visit: www.amsterdamumc.org/ard