

Preclinical Imaging Platform Erlangen (PIPE)
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Preclinical Imaging Platform Erlangen (PIPE): Usage regulations and fees

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The Preclinical Imaging Platform Erlangen (PIPE) is a non-profit organization within the Institute of Radiology, University Medical Center Erlangen. PIPE offers dedicated small animal imaging devices to internal (Friedrich-Alexander Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg) or external users. The conditions for using multimodel imaging scanners are as follows.

1) Staff

Prof. Dr. med. Tobias Bäuerle
Dr. Vanessa Popp
Lisa Freier
Lisa Seyler

Responsibility for the below-mentioned regulations: Prof. Dr. med. M. Uder and Prof. Dr. med. T. Bäuerle
Responsibility for technical and scientific matters: Prof. Dr. med. T. Bäuerle

2) Applicability

The usage regulations and fees are applicable for all users.

3) Equipment

PIPE offers small animal imaging devices including magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), computed tomography (CT), positron emission tomography (PET), single photon emission computed tomography (SPECT), ultrasound (US), and optical imaging (OI, bioluminescence and fluorescence). The following devices are available:

ClinScan, Bruker (Ultra high-field MRI 7 Tesla, preclinical system)
Terra, Siemens (Ultra high-field MRI 7 Tesla, clinical system)
Inveon, Siemens (Hybrid scanner μ CT/PET/SPECT)
Vevo, Visual Sonics (Ultrasound)
IVIS, Perkin Elmer (Optical imaging)

Equipment includes further hard- and software for dedicated small animal use (e.g. small animal coils for MRI and dedicated software for post-processing and data evaluation).

4) Rates

The given standard rates for usage of imaging devices include personnel for operation of scanners as well as animal handling, but no consumables, which are charged additionally.

A reduced standard rate for MRI at the ClinScan can be offered for measurements of (*ex vivo*) samples with a duration time exceeding 3 hours ('MRI long').

Scientific support includes evaluation of individual projects, establishment of imaging protocols (adjustment of imaging techniques etc.), post processing of imaging data and quantification of imaging results.

PIPE reserves the right to adapt and adjust the usage fees in due time.

MRI ClinScan (regular):	150,00 €/h
MRI ClinScan (long):	57,00 €/h
MRI Terra:	375,00 €/h
CT:	59,00 €/h
PET/SPECT:	80,00 €/h
Ultrasound:	50,00 €/h
Optical Imaging:	50,00 €/h
Scientific Support:	43,00 €/h

5) Usage regulations

Imaging service is available to internal and external users. Usage has to be scheduled in advance by contacting the above-mentioned staff of PIPE. Imaging hours are usually offered by request („first come, first serve“), but might be prioritized in case of overbooking as follows:

- a. *In vivo* imaging is prioritized over *ex vivo* demands (*in vivo* imaging is performed during normal working hours (Monday to Friday, 8 am to 5 pm; *ex vivo* and long-term measurements might be shifted to nights or weekends)).
- b. For *in vivo* imaging, animals are grouped according to their hygiene status in consensus with the central animal facility.
- c. Internal demands are prioritized over external requests.

For safety reasons, operation of imaging devices is performed by the PIPE staff only, with exception of ultrasound and optical imaging.

6) Data storage

Imaging data are stored in a dedicated picture archiving and communicating system (PACS). Data post processing including quantified data is not regularly archived.

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