3Rs Prize - Guidance on completing the nomination form

1. What kind of research and papers are eligible?

The prize is for a piece of highly original or innovative primary research that advances or has the potential to advance the 3Rs. Papers from any area of medical, biological or veterinary research are eligible. The primary research must have been published in a peer-reviewed journal in the last three years (1 September 2015 – 1 September 2018). Papers that are in press by 1 September 2018 will also be considered. Primary research is defined as experimental or laboratory-based research. Review articles are not eligible.

Please see www.nc3rs.org.uk/the-3rs for the definitions of the 3Rs.

2. Who is eligible?

The prize is awarded to the principal investigator, research lead or other nominated author. Typically, the first of last author should be nominated and the prize is open to any researcher in academia or industry, in the UK or overseas. Where there are joint first authors, the prize can be awarded collectively.

3. Nomination process

The online nomination form has two sections – the first for the nomination of the candidate by a proposer or for self-nomination by the candidate; the second, a short statement by the candidate as to how the prize grant will be used.

The proposer does not necessarily have to be directly associated with the research and could be the journal editor, head of department or another author on the paper.

4. Completing the nomination form

4.1 Contact details

Please provide full contact details for the proposer and the candidate. For self-nomination, complete the candidate contact details section only.

4.2 Summary of the paper

This should include the full reference for the paper in the format: Author(s) (Year), Paper title. Journal Volume (issue), page number.

Please indicate by ticking the relevant box which ‘R’ is most relevant to this research. If the work has implications for more than one of the three ‘Rs’ please tick additional boxes.

Please state the funding source(s) for the research. If the work involved the use of animals outside of the UK, please indicate which animal welfare standards apply (e.g. ILAR Guide, EU Directive 2010/63. If these standards have been exceeded, please explain how. The NC3Rs will look more favourably on those papers reporting work conducted to genuine high welfare standards.
4.3 Compliance with the ARRIVE guidelines

For all papers that report the use of animals, the studies must be described in accordance with the ARRIVE guidelines. This is to ensure that the data from animal experiments can be fully evaluated and utilised, to maximise the information published and minimise unnecessary studies. If the article is not in compliance with ARRIVE, the reasons for this must be justified.

4.4 Lay summary of the paper

In up to 400 words, please summarise the key outcomes of the research in terms suitable for a non-specialist reader.

4.5 What has this work achieved in terms of advancing this area of research?

This should cover the scientific or technological advances reported in the paper, in up to 500 words.

4.6 What impact does this research have on the 3Rs?

The 3Rs impacts of the research should be clearly articulated in the application. Please answer, in up to 300 words each, questions (a) to (c) as appropriate, to describe the immediate and future impact on the 3Rs of the work described in the paper, and any potential impact for other research areas.

Where possible, it is important to provide measures of impact for each of the questions (a) to (c). For example, provide an estimate of the reduction in the number of animals used, or objective indicators of how animal welfare has been improved. If the paper describes alternative non-animal methods or techniques describe, where appropriate, what scientific advantages they have over in vivo models.

Guidance on how to write effectively about the 3Rs impacts of the research, along with supporting metrics can be found here.

4.7 How have the 3Rs implications of the research been disseminated to date?

In up to 300 words, please describe what has been done to communicate the 3Rs implications of the research to colleagues and peers, and how successful this has been.

4.8 How will the prize grant be used?

This section should be completed by the candidate. In up to 400 words, please outline how the prize grant will be used. The prize grant can only be used to support the further development of the 3Rs, for example, for research or training. The accounts of past winners give examples of how they used their winner’s grant.

4.9 Personal Profile

Please provide a summary of the employment history and professional qualifications of the candidate.

5. Submitting the nomination form

Once the nomination form has been completed please email it to 3Rsprize@nc3rs.org.uk together with a PDF copy of the paper.