

## **Robotic arm and bone-on-a-chip: Schoolgirls meet BfR scientists at the German Centre for the Protection of Laboratory Animals**

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What alternatives to animal experiments exist? What is a bone-on-a-chip? Why laboratory mice choose their feed by themselves? Scientists at the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) answered these questions, which were put forward by 15- and 16-year-old students, at the laboratories of the German Centre for the Protection of Laboratory Animals at the BfR on 31 May 2018. Within the scope of the project “NATürlich – Schülerinnen treffen Naturwissenschaftlerinnen” (“NATurally – Schoolgirls meet scientists”), the girls took the opportunity to find out first-hand about the training and careers of the female BfR scientists and their scientific work at the Institute.

### **More information on alternatives to animal experiments on the BfR website**

<http://www.bfr.bund.de/en/zebet-58194.html>

[http://www.bfr.bund.de/en/german\\_centre\\_for\\_the\\_protection\\_of\\_laboratory\\_animals.html](http://www.bfr.bund.de/en/german_centre_for_the_protection_of_laboratory_animals.html)



BfR „Opinions App“

### **More information on the project „NATürlich – Schülerinnen treffen Naturwissenschaftlerinnen“ (“NATurally – Schoolgirls meet scientists”)**

[http://www.bcp.fu-berlin.de/natlab/schueler\\_innen/NATuerlich/termine/20180531.html](http://www.bcp.fu-berlin.de/natlab/schueler_innen/NATuerlich/termine/20180531.html)

The full version of this BfR Communication is available in German on:

<http://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/343/roboterarm-und-knochenchip-schuelerinnen-treffen-BfR-Wissenschaftlerinnen-am-deutschen-zentrum-zum-schutz-von-versuchstieren.pdf>

### **About the Bf3R**

The German Centre for the Protection of Laboratory Animals (Bf3R) was set up in 2015 and is an integral part of the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR). It coordinates all activities throughout Germany to reduce animal experiments to an absolute minimum and to guarantee the best possible protection for laboratory animals. Further aims are to stimulate research and promote scientific dialogue worldwide.

### **About the BfR**

The Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) is a scientifically independent institution within the portfolio of the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) in Germany. It advises the Federal Government and Federal Laender on questions of food, chemical and product safety. The BfR conducts its own research on topics that are closely linked to its assessment tasks.