

What is the Residual Risk Reduction initiative (R³i)?

What is the mission of the R³i?

The Residual Risk Reduction initiative (R³i) is a worldwide, academic, multidisciplinary, non-profit organization established by international researchers and clinicians who recognize the importance of the high risk of fatal and non-fatal macro- and micro-vascular complications occurring in patients with atherogenic dyslipidemia who are already receiving the current standards of care. To address this issue, it engages healthcare professionals in an innovative global initiative of academic research, education and advocacy with the goal of significantly improving and extending the lives of millions of patients with heart disease and/or diabetes.

What is the vision of the R³i?

To substantially extend and improve the lives of patients with heart disease and/or diabetes who have atherogenic dyslipidemia and remain at significantly increased risk of vascular diseases including heart attacks, impaired kidney function, loss of sight and limb amputation despite receiving current standards of care.

What will the R³i achieve?

The objectives and programs of the R³i are defined in a manifesto published as a position paper in *Diabetes and Vascular Disease Research* (executive statement) and a supplement to *The American Journal of Cardiology* (full statement).^{1,2}

The initiative has three major areas of activity:

- **Research** to quantify the full extent of residual vascular risk in patients with atherogenic dyslipidemia (cholesterol abnormalities increasing vascular risk) and to identify new targets for interventions
- **Educational programs** to create awareness of residual vascular risk and encourage healthcare professionals, particularly Primary Care Physicians (PCPs), to translate the results of research into improved treatment strategies
- **Advocacy** to ensure that the issue of residual vascular risk associated with atherogenic dyslipidemia is given appropriate priority in national and international guidelines

What is the R³i?

The R³i is established as a Swiss, non-profit Foundation which is responsible for raising and managing funds from multiple sponsors. As a pioneer sponsor, initial seed funding was provided by Solvay Pharmaceuticals which has enabled the R³i Foundation to launch a series of research and education projects in 2008.

The policy and programs of the R³i are developed and overseen by the Board of Trustees and an independent International Steering Committee comprised of recognized researchers in vascular diseases from across Europe, North America and Asia.

Board of Trustees of the R³i

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<i>Professor Paul Zimmet</i>	<i>International Diabetes Institute, Caulfield, Australia</i>
<i>Professor Jun-ren Zhu</i>	<i>Fudan University, Shanghai, China</i>

How are the R³i programs implemented at a national level?

National Steering Committees recruited at national level are responsible to ensure that the research and educational programs of the R³i are implemented locally in various countries and according to national regulations. National Steering Committees are beneficiaries of the Foundation and are provided with support and program materials. In addition to collaborating with the Board of Trustees and the International Steering Committee and contributing to the international programs of the R³i, these national organizations are also encouraged to undertake local initiatives aligned with the objectives of the R³i.

Currently, these National Steering Committees have been or are in the process of being established in more than 40 countries worldwide including:

Algeria, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Korea, Kuwait, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Vietnam.

Secretariat

GTN, 212 avenue Paul Doumer, 92500 Rueil-Malmaison Cedex, France

Tel: +33 1 41 42 20 35, Fax: +33 1 41 42 20 01, Email: info@r3i.org

More information on the R³i is available from:

The R³i website: www.r3i.org

The website contains information on the members, the mission, the research and the education programs. It also features links to various resources discussing residual vascular risk.

References

1. Fruchart JC, Sacks FM, Hermans MP, et al. The Residual Risk Reduction initiative: A call to action to reduce residual vascular risk in dyslipidemic patients. A condensed position paper by the Residual Risk Reduction Initiative (R³i). *Diabetes Vasc Dis Res* 2008;5:319-35.
2. Fruchart JC, Sacks FM, Hermans MP, et al. The Residual Risk Reduction initiative: A call to action to reduce residual vascular risk in dyslipidemic patients. A full position paper by the Residual Risk Reduction Initiative (R³i). *Am J Cardiol* 2008;102:Supplement 10A.