

## The Event

The NC3Rs is hosting a meeting to launch the 2013 CRACK IT Challenges funding competition in central London on Thursday 5 September 2013.

The meeting provides an opportunity to meet potential new partners, and access to the Challenge sponsors to begin the discussions necessary to put together a winning application.

The programme includes:

- Challenge-specific surgeries where participants can meet the sponsors and discuss the Challenges in detail;
- Networking sessions to help identify new collaborators to help solve the Challenges;
- A case study from a winner of one of the 2011 CRACK IT Challenges.

## 2013 Challenge Competition

CRACK IT Challenges ([www.crackit.org.uk/crack](http://www.crackit.org.uk/crack)) are designed to accelerate the development of new technologies which minimise animal use or improve animal welfare. The focus is on research and innovation which leads to marketable products or improvements in business processes.

The 2013 CRACK IT Challenges competition consists of five Challenges identified jointly by the NC3Rs and sponsors who provide in-kind contributions such as data, compounds or equipment. This year the competition is co-funded by the Technology Strategy Board (TSB) and Alzheimer's Research UK (ARUK).

The Challenges and sponsors for 2013 are:

- UnTangle: Development of an iPSC cell neuronal network platform to assay tau spread and pathology for Alzheimer's disease drug development (sponsored by ARUK and Lilly).
- InPulse: iPSC cardiomyocyte platform to assess drug-induced contractility liabilities (sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline).
- Inhalation Translation: Development of an approach to non-invasively assess inflammation and adverse events in rodent models of respiratory disease (sponsored by Huntingdon Life Sciences and Pfizer).
- NephroTube: Development of a multi-compartmental, microfluidic tissue model of tubular injury in assays of nephrotoxicity (sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline, Pfizer and Roche).
- Virtual Infectious Disease Research: Use of virtual information and tools to enhance disease modelling and new target development (sponsored by the NC3Rs).

# 2013 CRACK IT Challenges Launch Event

Full details of each of the 2013 CRACK IT Challenges are available to view at

[www.crackit.org.uk/crack/2013/2013\\_challenges](http://www.crackit.org.uk/crack/2013/2013_challenges)

For further information and to register for the meeting go to

[www.crackit.org.uk/calendar/2013launchevent](http://www.crackit.org.uk/calendar/2013launchevent)