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FLAGSHIP IN PERSONALISED MEDICINE



Project Partners' Update Q4 2020

Greetings,

We hope that despite of the challenging times you are continuously healthy and safe! The Quarterly Update for Q4 for EATRIS-Plus Project Partners informs you of the latest developments as well as upcoming events, deadlines and milestones in the project as we move together through the 4 years.

As we are reaching the end of the first year of the project, the majority of the envisioned milestones and deliverables are on track. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and to ensure safe delivery, the shipping of the biological samples in WP1-3 has been postponed from Q4 2020 to Q1 2021.

We want to thank all the partners for their hard work, dedication and patience during this extraordinary first year of the journey of EATRIS-Plus project!

Highlights

Toni Andreu and Edwin van de Ketterij participated at BioRegion of Catalonia Life Sciences and Healthcare Outlook Roundtable: Current realities and reasonable

The BioRegion report is the reference document on the Life Sciences and Healthcare industry in Catalonia, addressed to SMEs, entrepreneurs, researchers, policy makers, media and consultants. The 2019 edition of the Report was presented during a hybrid public event that combined the face-to-face and online format. The event include among other parts, an EATRIS-Plus Science Forum roundtable titled “Personalized Medicine: Building up a Cooperative Approach”. The forum was chaired by Montserrat Daban (Biocat) and included representatives form EATRIS, VHIR, AMGEN and IDIBELL. [Read more.](#)

Toni Andreu speaking at the Nordic Precision Medicine Forum

Nordic Precision Medicine Forum 2020/21 series is conducted an interview with Dr. Toni Andreu, Scientific Director, EATRIS. In this Q&A interview, Dr. Andreu discusses EATRIS, and its impact in the world of Precision Medicine, as well as multi-omics data and its uses. [Read more.](#)

Multionomics Capacity Mapping Survey completed and results published on the website

As part of WP1 we performed a mapping effort for omics technologies present within the Biomarkers platform members and benchmarking their technical features as well as the range of associated services provided. Altogether 24 institutes completed the mapping exercise and the data was integrated to EATRIS website with a filtering system for the “Institutes” page. This will increase the visibility of individual institutes and will therefore potentially increase the number of future collaboration opportunities. Moreover, the survey results also support the identification of sites for the performance assessment of omics technologies (ring testing) in WP3. [Try out the search function here.](#)

Exploration of collaboration opportunities with the iCAN initiative

EATRIS has been exploring collaboration opportunities with the [iCAN initiative](#). iCAN is a Finnish led digital precision cancer medicine initiative that aims to integrate molecular data with digital health data in new and meaningful ways for discoveries and improved treatments. There are significant synergies with EATRIS-Plus project. Some of the preliminarily identified collaboration points include the use of common metadata schemes for -omics datasets, use of common metadata schemes for analysis workflows, the creation of collaborative and secure working analysis environment as a way to give access to data; as well as a discussion on quality metrics.

Oswaldo Cruz Foundation has joined Translation Together Initiative

The Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (FIOCRUZ), created in 1900, is the largest public health-related R&D institution in Latin America. FIOCRUZ's mission is to produce, disseminate, and share knowledge and technologies aimed at strengthening and consolidating the Brazilian Unified Health System and contributing to promoting health and quality of life of the population. The Center for Technological Development in Health (CDTS) is a Fiocruz unit focused on translational science and has full synergy with Translation Together's mission and vision. Translation Together is a collaboration of world-leading translational research organizations that leverage complementary scientific and

voice to advance the science and understanding of biomedical translation. For EATRIS-Plus WP8 – International collaborations, we are looking forward to working with CDTs in the activities of the Translation Together network.

New Additions to EATRIS C&S Team – Communications and Grant Administration

In October 2020 Jake Fairnie and Piret Pajula joined EATRIS as the Head of Communications and Junior Communications Manager respectively. Jake and Piret will be heading the new communications strategy, as well as providing instrumental support to realising EATRIS-Plus project communication activities. In November 2020 we had another addition to our team, Camilla Santinelli joined EATRIS as a Grants Administrator and will be supporting us with project reporting, funding calls and liaising with the European Commission.

News from Partners



New Centre for Applied Studies and Innovation established at Sofia University

The Centre for Applied Research and Innovations (CASI) is a new Centre established as a joint venture of the Faculty of Biology at Sofia University and the Centre for Applied Research and Innovations Foundation, and is co-financed by the America for Bulgaria Foundation. The major activities of the Centre focus on scientific research and multidisciplinary innovations in the domain of the medical, pharmaceutical and biotechnologies. "Our vision is to create a place where the private sector and leading academic institutions in Bulgaria and the world meet, so that Bulgarian students can get practical skills on state-of-the art in biotechnology. The goal is for CASI to become a powerful incubator for biotechnological innovations in Bulgaria " said CASI founder Kiril Petkov. [Read more.](#)

Advancing personalised cancer treatment through patient “avatars”

The NORLUX Neuro-Oncology Laboratory at the LIH Department of Oncology (DONC), in collaboration with the Centre Hospitalier de Luxembourg (CHL), the Laboratoire National de Santé (LNS), the Luxembourg Centre for Systems Biomedicine (LCSB) of the University

of Luxembourg and other international partners, established a large collection of patient-

brain tumours. These tools will allow the establishment of personalised drug efficacy studies, thus increasing the chances of success of clinical trials and improving clinical outcomes for patients. The findings were presented in a recent publication in the international peer-reviewed journal *Acta Neuropathologica*. [Read more](#).

Chasing Covid event brings together best research projects on SARS-CoV-2 promoted from Catalonia

In Catalonia, more than 60 research projects are being led on Covid-19 and the virus that causes it, SARS-CoV-2. In order to boost visibility and collaboration among stakeholders in the ecosystem, Biocat hosted a virtual event on October 22 called Chasing Covid, which brought together the 20 most innovative projects in this field. More than 200 people attended the event, with collaboration from the Catalan Ministry of Health Department of Research and Innovation (DGRIS), Catalan Ministry of Business and Knowledge Directorate General of Research, the "la Caixa" Foundation and EIT Health. [Read more](#).

NeurATRIS and EATRIS organising 2 neuroscience webinars with the French Glial Cell Club and the GDR "Microglia and NeuroInflammation"

First Webinar on November 25th on Innovative Therapies for Glial Cells Related Diseases, talks by Caroline Sevin, Piotr Topilko and Nicolas Tricaud – [Read more and register here](#).

Second webinar on The Role of Glial Cells in Health and Disease on December 3rd, talks by Rosa C. Paolicelli, Juliette Van Steenwinckel, Pierre Szepetowski and Sylvian Bauer – [Read more and register here](#).

An online seminar 'Translational medicine – from the molecule to the patient', organised by EATRIS-LV

The following world-class experts will share their experience in realising translational medicine - Prof. Yehuda Shoenfeld from Tel Aviv Sheba Medical Center, Prof. Rejko Kruger from the University of Luxembourg, Prof. Pawel Zalewski from Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun and Anton Ussi, EATRIS Operations and Finance Director. [Read more and register here](#).

Recap X-omics festival 2020

On September 28th, the second X-omics festival "the future of X-omics research is now!" took place. The event contained a keynote lecture about the 100,000 Genomes Project, lectures from young investigators, other experts and technology pitches.

An overview of the presentations, including the key take home messages and the recordings can be [found here](#).

The third X-omics festival is planned on April 12th 2021, registration is open. [Register here](#).

Evidence for 28 genetic disorders discovered by combining healthcare and research data

A collaboration between X-omics partner Radboudumc, GeneDx and

Exome-sequence datasets from the three different institutes were combined into a cohort of 31,058 patients in order to have more statistical power. It became the largest statistical study of these mutations to date. [Read more.](#)

EPF co-organised and EU-PEARL Stakeholder workshop "Patient engagement for IRPs in trial design"

The initiative 'EU Patient centric clinical trial platforms (EU-PEARL) aims to enable a transformation of drug development through multi-sponsor, multi-compound Integrated Research Platforms (IRPs). An IRP is a novel clinical development concept centered around a master protocol trial that can accommodate multi-sourced interventions, using an existing infrastructure of hospitals and federated patient data, and an agreed, optimized regulatory pathway.

The patient engagement session was a part of a series of workshops to engage project stakeholders/audiences on the project topics and foster discussion with a wider group. [Read more.](#)

Internal calendar

Useful Resources

Past for Q3

- Multiomic Task Force (MTF) Meetings (30/09/20; 28/10/20)
- Steering Committee (SC) Meeting (30/09/20)
- Bioregion of Catalonia Life Sciences and Healthcare Outlook 2020 – Roundtable on Personalised Medicine “Building up a Collaborative Approach” (28/09/20)
- National Coordinators Workshop – Translational Assessment (7-8/10/20)
- Translation Together Annual Event – 5 Sessions (12-21/10/20)
- Nordic Precision Medicine Forum (3-4/11/20)

- [Contact List](#)
- [Grant Agreement](#)
- [Consortium Agreement](#)
- [Partner Communication Toolkit](#)
- [Project Handbook](#)
- [WP Folders](#)

Need access to EATRIS-Plus Sharepoint? Please contact EATRIS IT Coordinator Laure Boudaud (laureboudaud@eatris.eu)

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- Patient Advisory Committee (PAC) Kick-off meeting (19/11/20)
- Multiomic Task Force (MTF) Meetings (25/10/20; break in Dec)
- Ethics Committee Meeting (1/12/20)
- Multiomic Stakeholder Group Meeting (moved to Feb 2021)
- Interim Financial Reports II – collected in January 2021

[See all reoccurring meetings in Calendar here](#)

WP Updates

WP 1

- Multiomics capacity mapping survey completed, results published on EATRIS website
- MTF monthly meetings every third Wed as planned
- Reference Protocols for individual omics methods submitted

WP 2

- Data Management Plan submitted
- Exploration of synergies with the iCAN initiative

WP 3

- Identification of participants for ring testing and proficiency testing ongoing

WP 4

- Nodes capacity building handbook in preparation
- National stakeholder mapping and analysis ongoing
- National Coordinators Capacity Building Workshop held

WP 5

- Patient Advisory Committee finalised & first meeting scheduled
- Multiomic Stakeholder Workshop agenda and dates determined

WP 6

- “SME Needs to Research Infrastructures” survey analysis in progress

WP 7

- Summer School curriculum committee established and agenda in preparation
- Training Needs Survey results analysis in progress

WP 8

Deliverable status

Submitted

- [D9.3 Data Management Plan](#) (30/09/20)
- [D1.1 Reference Protocols for individual omics methods](#) (30/09/20)
- [D10.2 POPD – Ethics Requirement No. 3](#) (30/09/20)
- [M1 EATRIS members omics capacities overview](#) (30/09/20)

Upcoming

- M2 Delivery of the samples completed (31/10/20) – postponed to Q1 2021 due to covid
- M19 First Meeting of Patient Advisory Committee (30/11/20)
- D10.3 GEN-Requirement No 4 – Ethics Committee Annual report (31/12/20)
- D3.1 Report on proficiency testing for biological specimen processing (31/12/20) –postponed to Q1 2021
- D4.1 Handbook for Nodes Capacity Building (31/12/20)
- D6.1 Survey Results SME/biotech Needs to RIs and service gaps (31/12/20)
- D7.1 Survey Results EATRIS Community Training Needs (31/12/20)
- D9.4 Project Handbook for Exploitation Planning

- Translation Together Annual Event held
- Fiocruz as a new partner in Translation Together

WP 9

- SC Quarterly meetings taking place as planned
 - Ethics Requirement No 3 – POPD Submitted
 - GA Amendment finalised
 - Project Handbook Released
 - Interim Financial report collection starts Jan 2021
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