Paediatric Clinical Research Infrastructure Network (PedCRIN)

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Logo and Brochure

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Paediatric Clinical Research Infrastructure Network (PedCRIN)

Towards better medicines for children: Enhancing research infrastructure to conduct and manage more robust paediatric clinical trials
PedCRIN Brochure

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What is PedCRIN?

The Paediatric Clinical Research Infrastructure Network (PedCRIN) brings together the European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network (ECRIN) and the founding partners of the European Paediatric Clinical Trial Research Infrastructure (EPCT-RI) to develop capacity for the management of multinational paediatric clinical trials. PedCRIN is a four-year project funded by the European Union’s Horizon 2020 programme, launched on 1 January 2017. PedCRIN will effectively bridge paediatricians and other partners across Europe (and internationally) to combine resources and expertise to conduct and manage robust studies, while minimising risk and protecting the child participants.
Why do we need PedCRIN?

Clinical research involving infants, children, and adolescents is, in some important aspects, more challenging than research involving adults. Paediatric clinical trials have novel complexities due to the safety concerns of testing medicines in children, ethical considerations, informed consent, lower prevalence of disease, the need to test different age groups, the possibility of late adverse effects, the requirement for tailored study design and the need for child-appropriate medicine formulations. These challenges deter many researchers from attempting multinational trials, which are not only important for new drugs but also for available treatments that need to be refined. Conducting clinical trials in children requires specific competences and infrastructure. To overcome complex challenges of pediatric research there is a need to develop an infrastructure which could be used as a tool for the support and management of multinational paediatric trials. To fulfill this need EPCTRI and ECRIN collaborated to develop PedCRIN, a common infrastructure for paediatric trial management and investigation.

ECRIN is a non-profit intergovernmental organisation that provides support to multinational clinical trials. Through PedCRIN, ECRIN will develop its capacity to support the conduct of robust, multinational, academic paediatric clinical trials.

The aims of PedCRIN

The aim of PedCRIN is to develop the necessary tools and capacity to enhance the quality, safety, efficacy and ethical standards of multinational, non-commercial paediatric clinical trials.
Project organization

The project builds on six work packages. The tasks and deliverables of the six work packages are being performed by fifteen project partners representing thirteen different countries of the European union (Table: participating organisations). In the project organization overview the cohesion between the work packages and the different work package leaders are being displayed.

The six work packages:
1. Project coordination and implementation (ECRIN)
2. Business strategy and governance structure (sustainability) (ULIV)
3. Development of tools specific for paediatric and neonatal trials (CVBF, INSERM)
4. Provision of operational support to pilot trials (HUS-FI, RUMC, ECRIN)
5. Communication to target user communities and policymakers and aiming to empower patients and parents (FSJD, VSOP)
6. Ethics (ECRIN, RUMC)
## Participating Organisations

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<th>Participant organisation</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<tr>
<td>European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network (ECRIN)</td>
<td>ECRIN</td>
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<td>The University of Liverpool</td>
<td>ULIV</td>
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<td>Consorzio Per Valutazioni Biologiche E Farmacologiche</td>
<td>CVBF</td>
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<td>Stichting Katholieke Universiteit</td>
<td>RUMC</td>
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<td>Institut National De La Sante et de la Recherche</td>
<td>INSERM</td>
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<td>Medicale (INSERM)</td>
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<td>Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa</td>
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<td>Fundacio Sant Joan de Deu</td>
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<td>Swiss Clinical Trial Organisation</td>
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<td>Karolinska Institutet</td>
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<td>Helse Bergen HF Haukeland University Hospital</td>
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<td>OKIDS GmbH</td>
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<td>The National Children’s Research Centre</td>
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<td>Vereniging Samenwerkende Ouder- en Patientenorganisaties</td>
<td>VSOP</td>
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PedCRIN expected outcomes

More information and a complete overview of the objectives and activities in the six work packages can be found on the PedCRIN website (http://www.ecrin.org/projects/pedcrin/wp-activities). The main expected outcomes of PedCRIN are:

1. PedCRIN will contribute to a comprehensive European landscape of sustainable Research Infrastructures that respond to challenges in science, industry and society
2. PedCRIN will provide tools, infrastructures and services for academic and independent investigators for conducting multinational neonatal and paediatric clinical trials
3. The removal of barriers to trial management will speed up the evaluation of new and improved therapies
4. By reducing time and cost overhead of multinational studies will stimulate investigators and funders to conduct more multinational studies in Europe
5. Joint involvement in the management of multinational trials will therefore act as a hands-on training for the whole organization and the staff involved
6. PedCRIN will specify needs of including the engagement of children, young people, families and carers in the design and implementation of clinical trials

Want to know more about PedCRIN or get involved?
More information about PedCRIN can be found on the website (http://www.ecrin.org/projects/pedcrin). If you have any ideas or questions about PedCRIN, please do not hesitate to contact the PedCRIN team at: Pedcrin.communication@ecrin.org

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