



## Examples of EU co-funded Health Projects in the North West of England

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**NHS**

North West Health  
Brussels Office  
*Representing the North West of  
England health community in Brussels*





## Foreword

The North West Health Brussels Office has as one of its priorities “the facilitating of fundraising activities for the North West health community.” This is one of our key priorities and one that interests many of our NHS members from across the North West of England region.

This document aims to help us achieve that priority by highlighting some of the previous examples of European co-funded projects that different parts of the health community in the North West are involved in. The sheer number and size of these projects shows that whilst EU funding may seem like a very foreign concept to many of us, it is in fact all around us in the North West. There is now a vast amount of expertise that we can tap into, with some of our own institutions and partners now seen as European leaders in their respective fields.

This is by no means an exhaustive list of North West European efforts, nor has the North West Health Brussels Office been involved in the establishment of all listed projects. This document concentrates mainly on the projects co-funded by the European Commission’s EU Public Health Programme and the Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7), which we hope will continue to provide interesting opportunities for North West health organisations to co-fund useful European work in future. We hope to continue adding to this document in the coming months and years, to further demonstrate and build upon the European funding efforts of this region.

We are delighted that so many North West institutions have taken it upon themselves to get involved in European funding activity and are seeing the benefit of European collaborations and benchmarking through these projects. We hope to play our part in further encouraging this trend in the coming years and hope that this document can act as proof that it is possible for us to be involved in EU funding work and encourage the sharing of knowledge across the North West between those who have been successful and those seeking European funding success.

Yours sincerely,

**Chris White**

Senior EU Health Specialist  
North West Health Brussels Office



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<b>Title of project</b>	<b>Alcohol Measures for Public Health Research Alliance (AMPHORA)</b>
<b>Year Project began</b>	2009
<b>Duration</b>	48 months
<b>EU Funding Stream</b>	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
<b>Total value of the project (€)</b>	2,996,987
<b>Value to the North West (€)</b>	98,438
<b>North West Partner</b>	Liverpool John Moores University
<b>Number of partners in project</b>	35
<b>Objectives of the project</b>	<p><b>A European Alcohol Policy Research Alliance</b></p> <p>AMPHORA has created a European Alcohol Policy Research Alliance of internationally renowned alcohol policy researchers from a wide range of disciplines. The Alliance will undertake new empirical research to strengthen European research knowledge of the impact of public health measures and interventions to reduce alcohol related harm and contribute to integrated policy making.</p> <p><b>Evaluating the Cost Effectiveness of Policy Measures</b></p> <p>A common framework for evaluating the effectiveness and cost effectiveness of policy measures will be developed. Evaluated measures will be collected in a database of cost-effective public health measures to reduce alcohol-related harm.</p> <p><b>Analyzing Infrastructures</b></p> <p>Every country in the European Union (EU) has laws and policies relating to the trade, sale and consumption of alcohol. These policies exist within a specific cultural setting and function within the context of people's views on alcohol policy and how they perceive alcohol and alcohol-related harm. AMPHORA will document and analyze current alcohol policy related infrastructures within this cultural and social context. Its impact on effective policy development and implementation will be analyzed along with public perceptions of alcohol, alcohol-related harm and effective alcohol policy, leading to better integrated alcohol policy.</p> <p><b>Young People and Alcohol Marketing</b></p> <p>Using well-designed longitudinal studies controlling for potential confounders AMPHORA will measure exposure and examine how this relates to drinking behaviour two years later. Adolescents' media literacy as regards commercial messages on alcohol will be investigated in different countries using new methodological tools. Utilizing knowledge from other disciplines including marketing and anthropology AMPHORA will provide an evidence-base for policy makers to reduce alcohol related harm among European young people.</p> <p><b>Pricing and Availability</b></p> <p>The impact of recent and current changes in the price and availability of alcohol on consumption and alcohol-related harm in Europe will be analyzed using a range of methodologies. AMPHORA will look not only at raw changes in price but compare changes in disposable income with the relative cost of alcohol.</p>



<p>Title of project</p>	<p><b>Alcohol Measures for Public Health Research Alliance (AMPHORA)</b></p>
<p>Objectives of the project</p>	<p><b>Service Provision for Early Identification and Management of Alcohol Use Disorders</b> AMPHORA will map need and service provision for early identification and management of alcohol use disorders in Europe. The public health impact and policy implications of early identification and management in Europe will be evaluated.</p> <p><b>Drinking Environments and Alcohol Related Harm</b> By identifying and analyzing the factors associated with alcohol-related harm in drinking environments across Europe AMPHORA will make recommendations to make these safer for Europeans and visitors.</p> <p><b>Reducing the Harm from Surrogate and Illegally Produced Alcohol</b> AMPHORA will collect samples of surrogate and illegally produced alcohol from all EU countries to be analyzed for alcohol content and to identify health threatening contaminants including volatile substances and heavy metals. This is the first time such a study will have been undertaken at the European level with the aim of leading to practical recommendations to reduce the harm related to the consumption of surrogate and illegally produced alcohol.</p> <p><b>Public Perceptions of Alcohol Related Harm</b> AMPHORA will determine the impact of public perceptions of alcohol and alcohol-related harm on the implementation and outcome of measures to reduce alcohol related harm. Responses to statements of frequency, degree of intoxication and social context of a random population sample from 7 countries will be analyzed to determine perceptions of what constitutes alcohol alcohol-related harm.</p> <p><b>Scale of Comprehensive and Integrated Alcohol Policy</b> Collecting and collating data on alcohol policy measures in European countries and over time will allow AMPHORA to develop a matrix of alcohol policy options across Europe. AMPHORA will develop a scale to measure the comprehensiveness and integration of public health measures to reduce the harm done by alcohol in all European countries.</p> <p><b>Translating Science to Policy</b> Science and policy will be brought together in two expert and counterpart meetings in 2010 and 2011, and through a European Alcohol Policy conference in 2012. Project outcomes will also be disseminated through publications in peer reviewed journals, a database of cost-effective measures, the project web site and participation in relevant workshops, conferences and networks</p>
<p>How has this EU project been useful to your organisation?</p>	<p>The project is still underway. At present the project has facilitated our development of research and research collaborations across Europe.</p>
<p>North West contact for further information</p>	<p><b>Miss Karen Hughes,</b> Centre for Public Health, 5th Floor, Kingsway House, Hatton Garden, Liverpool, L3 2AJ <a href="mailto:k.e.hughes@ljamu.ac.uk">k.e.hughes@ljamu.ac.uk</a></p>



Title of project	<b>CLUB HEALTH</b>
Year Project began	May 2009
Duration	36 months
EU Funding Stream	EU Public Health Programme (DG SANCO)
Total value of the project (€)	166,667
Value to the North West (€)	74,800
North West Partner	Liverpool John Moores University
Number of partners in project	15
Objectives of the project	<p>The project aims to reduce diseases (especially addictions and sexually transmitted infections), accidents, injuries and violence among youth with a focus on specific environments of nightlife. The project aims to facilitate more consistent implementation of strategies and laws in the field of youth risk behaviour on the one hand, and increase sensitivity of media, advertising industry and politically relevant actors (e.g. policy and decision makers) on their responsibility for action on the other hand. The project builds on the work of the previous EC co-financed project "Recreational Culture as a Tool to Prevent Risk Behaviours", and complements other EC co-financed projects in the field of youth risk behaviour.</p> <p><b>The Club Health project will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consolidate, maintain and broaden the Club Health network, bringing together a wide range of institutions, researchers, professionals and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the field of youth risk behaviour.</li> <li>• Undertake impact assessment of implementation of strategies and laws in the field of youth risk behaviour in nightlife.</li> <li>• Develop an inventory of effective evidence-based legislative and policy measures in the field of youth risk behaviour in nightlife.</li> <li>• Build capacity at country, regional and local levels for effective implementation of legislative and policy measures through pilot trainings, workshops, seminar and conferences.</li> </ul>
How has this EU project been useful to your organisation?	The project is in its early stages but is helping consolidate knowledge and networks across Europe in creating safer nightlife settings.
North West contact for further information	<p><b>Karen Hughes</b> K.e.hughes@ljmu.ac.uk 0151 231 8723</p>



<b>Title of project</b>	<b>Tourism, Recreation and Violence: a European Level Study</b>
<b>Year Project began</b>	2009
<b>Duration</b>	24 months
<b>EU Funding Stream</b>	DAHNE Programme
<b>Total value of the project (€)</b>	240,113
<b>Value to the North West (€)</b>	191,113
<b>North West Partner</b>	Liverpool John Moores University
<b>Number of partners in project</b>	5
<b>Objectives of the project</b>	<p>The problem of violence will be explored in tourism resorts frequently visited by young people. The research will be conducted in five European countries with known nightlife tourism settings (Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain). Specific qualitative and quantitative methodologies will be set up in order to understand the contextual risk factors associated with the violence. The study will also examine the interaction between violence and other risks for health and safety that arise in those contexts, including the use of alcohol and other drugs.</p> <p>The main aim is to generate relevant information on emerging violence involving young people in tourist resorts, to evaluate and propose preventive actions at policy levels and also at practical implementation levels. All this will be achieved by comparing levels of violence between different geographical destinations (with the data collected from airport surveys), and also by comparing same / different visitor nationalities, linked to the specific tourist image features of each destination (data gathered from the qualitative analysis). This will allow an in-depth analysis of the risk and protective factors influencing violent behaviour (cultural, social, geographical and media factors), and the elaboration of preventive recommendations at different levels: policy making measures, and also recommendations for practical preventive actions.</p>
<b>How has this EU project been useful to your organisation?</b>	Project ongoing, but assisting in developing research knowledge and supporting work to promote health and safety protection in young tourists.
<b>North West contact for further information</b>	<p><b>Karen Hughes</b>  <a href="mailto:K.e.hughes@ljmu.ac.uk">K.e.hughes@ljmu.ac.uk</a>            0151 231 8723</p>



<b>Title of project</b>	<b>European standards in evidence for drug prevention</b>
<b>Year Project began</b>	2009
<b>Duration</b>	24 months
<b>EU Funding Stream</b>	EU Public Health Programme (DG SANCO)
<b>Total value of the project (€)</b>	Total: EUR 498,520.00, out of which: EC Contribution: EUR 284,507.00 Matched funding by partners: EUR 214,013.00
<b>Value to the North West (€)</b>	Total value for LJMU: EUR 114,876.25, out of which: EC Contribution: EUR 67,190.00 Matched funding by LJMU: EUR 47,686.25
<b>North West Partner</b>	Centre for Public Health, Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU) (project lead)
<b>Number of partners in project</b>	Seven main partners (including project lead)
<b>Objectives of the project</b>	<p>This project aims to improve European drug prevention practice by creating an empirically derived reference framework to bridge the gaps between science, policy and practice in drug prevention.</p> <p>The overall objective of the project is to compile, review and analyse existing drug prevention standards in EU Member States and internationally. The expected outcome of the project is a set of commonly agreed evidence-based drug prevention standards for use in the EU.</p> <p>Adoption of these standards will improve drug prevention practice and efficiency of funding, and reduce the likelihood of implementation of ineffective and iatrogenic interventions. Developing a common methodology and locally relevant guidance will provide an impetus for partners and other EU Member States to review and update standards to reflect the evidence base, allowing them to demonstrate success in reaching specific objectives of National and EU Drugs Action Plans. Further information can be found at <a href="http://www.cph.org.uk/drugprevention/">http://www.cph.org.uk/drugprevention/</a></p>
<b>How has this EU project been useful to your organisation?</b>	<p>The project has reinforced and expanded the Centre's international reputation in the field of drug prevention. It has further been useful in establishing new contacts within the EU, particularly as the EMCDDA is a collaborating partner in the project. As a result, two follow-up projects are currently in planning with new project partners.</p> <p>In the future, it is anticipated that the Centre will be actively involved in the promotion of the resulting drug prevention standards in the UK, which will strengthen the Centre's position also on a national level.</p>
<b>North West contact for further information</b>	<p><b>Ms Angelina Kurtev</b>          Researcher in Public Health          Centre for Public Health, Liverpool John Moores University          5th floor, Kingsway House, Hatton Garden, Liverpool L3 2AJ, UK          Tel. +44 151 231 8096          Email: <a href="mailto:A.Kurtev@ljmu.ac.uk">A.Kurtev@ljmu.ac.uk</a></p>



Title of project	<b>Ethical Frameworks for Telecare Technologies for older people at home</b>
Year Project began	2008
Duration	36 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7) Capacities Science in Society
Total value of the project (€)	783,084
Value to the North West (€)	300,000
North West Partner	Lancaster University
Number of partners in project	4
Objectives of the project	EFORTT is concerned with the implications of the introduction of remote care technologies worn, installed or embedded in the homes of older citizens/frail older people. It addresses an ethical and democratic deficit in this field which has arisen due to a proliferation in research and development of advanced care technologies that has not been accompanied by sufficient consideration of their social context. In-depth qualitative research methods will deepen the understanding of ethical issues raised by these developments and will develop qualitative approaches to understand the making of practice around telecare in both preventive and responsive modes. It will also develop deliberative approaches to the making of remote care policy at a European level by separately recruiting citizens' panels of older people and carers in each partner's region. By convening these panels twice: early in the research to gain citizens views about care systems, and later to consider research findings from the project, the study will develop a grounded evaluative and ethical framework to enhance the legitimacy of European policymaking in this highly sensitive area.
How has this EU project been useful to your organisation?	It has allowed us to strengthen our links with health and social care organisations and service users in the North West, with commissioning and provider telecare organisations. We are also beginning to publish findings from our work.
North West contact for further information	<b>Dr Maggie Mort</b> Dept of Sociology/School of Health & Medicine, Lancaster University. <a href="mailto:m.mort@lancaster.ac.uk">m.mort@lancaster.ac.uk</a> Project website: <a href="http://www.lancs.ac.uk/efortt/">www.lancs.ac.uk/efortt/</a>



Title of project	<b>Healthy Nightlife Toolbox (HNT)</b>
Year Project began	2007
Duration	48 months
EU Funding Stream	EU Public Health Programme (DG SANCO)
Total value of the project (€)	845,756.89
Value to the North West (€)	140,529
North West Partner	Liverpool John Moores University
Number of partners in project	18
Objectives of the project	<p>The focus of this project is to reduce harm from alcohol and drug use among young people. As stated in the EU Drugs Action Plan 2005-2009 there is a strong need for collation and dissemination of (scientific) evidence and best practise on this issue. The healthy nightlife toolbox disseminates information on high quality interventions and literature and stimulates the exchange of knowledge on drugs &amp; alcohol prevention in nightlife settings via an e-platform.</p> <p><b>The toolbox will be available to local, regional and national policymakers and prevention workers in the EU. It contains:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A handbook providing models of good practise including a structured method to identify &amp; implement suitable effective interventions and policies.</li> <li>• Databases with contact details, literature and evidence based and best practise interventions and policies, covering a broad scope of universal, selective and indicated prevention and harm reduction solutions.</li> </ul> <p>The toolbox will be publicly accessible directly via the internet, but also via existing websites and databases. Relevant partners will be actively informed via an e-newsletter.</p>
How has this EU project been useful to your organisation?	By drawing together evidence and examples of interventions on promoting healthy nightlife across Europe and making this accessible to local practitioners.
North West contact for further information	<p><b>Sara Hughes</b>  <a href="mailto:s.k.hughes@ljmu.ac.uk">s.k.hughes@ljmu.ac.uk</a>          0151 231 8723</p>



Title of project	<b>DETERMINE - an EU Consortium for Action on Socio-Economic Determinants of Health</b>
Duration	36 months
EU Funding Stream	EU Public Health Programme (DG SANCO) - Health Determinants
Total value of the project (€)	1,680,719.62
Value to the North West (€)	19,195.80
North West partner	South Sefton PCT
Number of partners in project	30 main partners (co-funded) and 26 collaborating partners.
Objectives of the project	The project aims to apply the EU and its Member State's shared policy competences to act on the socio-economic determinants of health, to ensure greater awareness of the responsibility that all policy sectors, beyond the health sector, have with respect to maintaining and improving the health of EU citizens, and to gather the evidence of the benefits of greater collective investment in health.
How has this EU project been useful to your organisation?	Participating in the DETERMINE project allowed the organisation to engage in a wide range of activities that contribute to a better understanding of how to improve health equity in the EU through a socio-economic determinants of health approach.
North West contact for further information	<p><b>Chris White</b>  <a href="mailto:c.white@northwesthealth.eu">c.white@northwesthealth.eu</a>          North West Health Brussels Office          North West House          Rue du Marteau 21, B1000          Brussels, Belgium          T: +32 2 2295 388</p>



<b>Title of project</b>	<b>EUREGIO III</b>
<b>Duration</b>	36 months
<b>EU Funding Stream</b>	EU Public Health Programme (DG SANCO)
<b>Total value of the project (€)</b>	1,556,380
<b>Value to the North West (€)</b>	325,557
<b>North West Partner</b>	University of Liverpool – Division of Public Health
<b>Number of partners in project</b>	6 Associate Partners 14 Collaborating Partners
<b>Objectives of the project</b>	<p>Review EUREGIO and agree best actions inclusion &amp; assessment criteria – To review lessons learned from conduct of EUREGIO and other good practice sharing initiatives in order to build consensus about criteria for identifying and assessing good practices in use of Structural Funds for health investments.</p> <p>Learning lessons from health investments - To identify examples of good practice and learn from problems experienced in planning, seeking funding for, implementing, evaluating and managing health investments in the 2000-2006 period: and 2007-2013 period when available.</p> <p>Clarifying regional support needs – To undertake (i) a scoping and screening exercise of existing information, expertise and synergies (ii) a stakeholder analysis (iii) capacity building audits and case studies in paradigm regions in order to clarify existing and emerging regional support needs that will enable maximization of health gains in three areas of SF investment (direct health sector, indirect health sector and non-health sector).</p> <p>Opportunities and barriers to knowledge exchange - To undertake a gap analysis with key stakeholders in order to clarify how knowledge exchange about good practice can effectively be facilitated with &amp; between (Regional) Operational Programme Managing Authorities, Monitoring Committees &amp; SF beneficiaries.</p> <p>Central access point and maximising uptake - To provide a centralised access point to practical 'what works' and 'how to' knowledge &amp; coordinate activities to increase uptake and use of good practices and lessons learned in health investment by SF beneficiaries in EU regions.</p> <p>Dissemination - To stimulate exchanges and networking between EU27 regions that focus on the 'take home value' of good practice cases/themes/lessons and include communication methods that range from passive (publications, reports) to active (study visits, mentoring, workshops).</p> <p>Sustainable outcomes for the 2007-2013 period and beyond - Build strategic linkages with key stakeholders &amp; end users. EIII will support decision making across the spectrum of mainstream SF programmes in the current period; inform its mid-term review in terms of health gains maximized from SF investments; inform planning for the 2014-2020 period between relevant EC Directorates, national &amp; regional Managing Authorities/Monitoring Committees and other key stakeholders and beneficiaries.</p>
<b>How has this EU project been useful to your organisation?</b>	<p>HCN was an Interreg IIIC network (2005-2007) in which CHAMPS was the NW partner. In January 2008 it became a non-profit interregional organisation owned by member regions from the EU, including the NW. This project builds on our approach to making available practical 'how-to' knowledge to EU regions who are seeking to (i) maximise health gains from mainstream Structural Fund operational programmes (ii) maximise the added economic and social value of regional health system expenditure through local procurement, inclusive employment, affordable capital investment and engaging the health sector in regional health innovation knowledge hubs &amp; innovation clusters.</p>
<b>North West contact for further information</b>	<p><b>Dr Nigel G Bruce,</b> Reader and Head of Division, Division of Public Health University of Liverpool. Email: <a href="mailto:ngb@liverpool.ac.uk">ngb@liverpool.ac.uk</a> Phone: +44-(0)151-794-5582/5576</p>



Title of project	<b>European Registry on Cushing's syndrome (ERCUSYN) <a href="http://www.ercusyn.eu">www.ercusyn.eu</a></b>
Duration	36 month
EU Funding Stream	EU Public Health Programme (DG SANCO) - Health Determinants
Total value of the project (€)	775,862
Number of partners in project	34 centres across Europe
North West partner	Christie Hospital
Objectives of the project	The general objectives of this project proposal are to improve the care of patients with Cushing's syndrome in Europe and thereby improve outcomes. As with many rare diseases, the diagnosis is often delayed and patients are managed in centres with limited experience and expertise. In particular, with Cushing's syndrome there has been a failure to appreciate the long term impact of sustained high cortisol levels on mental health and quality of life. This project will identify the reasons for delayed diagnosis and endeavour to (i) establish the optimal, cost effective diagnostic investigations and the best means of delivering the various modes of therapy (i.e. surgery, radiotherapy and medical treatment), and (ii) define the desired end points of treatment, in terms of both biochemistry and quality of life.
How has this EU project been useful to your organisation?	The study acknowledges The Christie as a centre of excellence for the care of patients with Cushing's syndrome and is supporting the development of an infrastructure to track patient outcomes as a means of establishing standards of care.
North West Contact for further information	<b>Professor Peter Trainer,</b> Department of Endocrinology, The Christie NHS Foundation Trust, Wilmslow Road, Manchester, M20 4BX <a href="mailto:peter.trainer@man.ac.uk">peter.trainer@man.ac.uk</a>



<b>Title of project</b>	<b>Focus on alcohol safe environment</b>
<b>Duration</b>	24 months
<b>EU Funding Stream</b>	EU Public Health Programme (DG SANCO)- Health Determinants
<b>Total value of the project (€)</b>	360,256
<b>Value to the North West (€)</b>	81,410
<b>North West Partner</b>	Liverpool John Moores University
<b>Number of partners in project</b>	5
<b>Objectives of the project</b>	FASE project aims at reducing the impact of harmful and hazardous alcohol consumption on the economy (e.g. reduce absenteeism, drinking during working hours, working with a hangover and unemployment) through building capacity at the country and European levels, by collecting best practices in work-place strategies to, by networking, evaluating and collecting best practices on well-resourced community mobilization and intervention projects, involving different sectors and partners to create safer drinking environments; and by supporting development of best practice in advertising, self regulation and monitoring.
<b>North West contact for further information</b>	<b>Centre for Public Health,</b> Liverpool John Moores University
<b>Title of project</b>	<b>Healthclusternet</b>
<b>Duration</b>	33 months
<b>EU Funding Stream</b>	European Regional Development Fund
<b>Total value of the project (€)</b>	1,511,338
<b>Value to the North West (€)</b>	160,000
<b>North West partner</b>	ChaMPs Public Health Network (Cheshire and Merseyside)
<b>Number of partners in project</b>	13
<b>Objectives of the project</b>	The project aims to build on evidence that demonstrates that, in general, health and economic activity are directly linked and therefore maximising regional health care sector spending improves regional economic performance and the health of the regional population.  Healthclusternet has four work streams: procurement, employment, capital investment and innovation.
<b>How has this EU project been useful to your organisation?</b>	Raising the profile of ChaMPs Public Health Network at regional, national and European level  Supporting the continuing professional development (CPD) needs of network members  Developing and widening knowledge of North West regional work in this field
<b>North West contact for further information</b>	<b>Tony Ellis</b> North West Health Brussels Office T: +32 2 229 53 88 F: +32 2 229 53 83 E: health@northwesthealth.eu Website: www.northwesthealth.eu



<b>Title of project</b>	<b>Healthy Stadia</b>
<b>Duration</b>	28 months
<b>EU Funding Stream</b>	Public Health Programme- Health Determinants
<b>Total value of the project (€)</b>	886,180.00
<b>Value to the North West (€)</b>	312,000.00
<b>North West Partner</b>	Heart of Mersey
<b>Number of partners in project</b>	37 organisations (Associated partners: 9 Collaborative partners: 28)
<b>Objectives of the project</b>	<p>Exploring good practice at stadia in promoting public health.</p> <p>Making recommendations for sports stadia to become health promoting.</p> <p>Developing and piloting a Healthy Stadia toolkit.</p> <p>Disseminating information on Healthy Stadia across Europe.</p> <p>Establishing a European Healthy Stadia network.</p> <p>Creating awareness of the European Healthy Stadia 'brand'.</p>
<b>How has this EU project been useful to your organization?</b>	<p>Helped to build relationships between our organisation and a wide range of local, regional and European partners organisations</p> <p>Helped to build the profile of a settings based, population level approach to public health</p> <p>Helped to raise the profile of Heart of Mersey at a European level.</p>
<b>North West contact for further information</b>	<p><b>Matthew Philpott</b>          European Healthy Stadia Programme Manager          Heart of Mersey          First Floor          Burlington House          Crosby Road North,          Liverpool          L22 0QB          T: +44 (0)151 9287820  <a href="mailto:Matthew.philpott@heartofmersey.org.uk">Matthew.philpott@heartofmersey.org.uk</a></p>



<b>Title of project</b>	<b>In Form: Campaign against child and adolescent obesity</b>
<b>Duration</b>	36 months
<b>EU Funding Stream</b>	EU Public Health Programme (DG SANCO)
<b>Total value of the project (€)</b>	2,181,386
<b>Value to the North West (€)</b>	132,601
<b>North West Partner</b>	University of Cumbria Faculty of Health Medical Sciences & Social Care
<b>Number of partners in project</b>	14
<b>Objectives of the project</b>	The "InForm" project contributes to counteracting obesity and its long-term damage in a sustainable manner on the one hand, and constitutes a milestone in the integration of the health sectors of all European countries on the other. The project wishes to influence the obesity debate which is gaining in momentum all over the world in a standardised, coordinated and long-term manner, in accordance with the strategic targets of the European Union. The main targets of the "InForm" project are the preparation of European-wide standards in the fields of diagnostics and therapy, the preparation of European-wide course standards for certified obesity trainers, the creation of competence centres for obesity and the provision of sustainable measures to prevent and alleviate obesity.
<b>How has this EU project been useful for your organisation?</b>	<p>The project began in October 2008 and will run until 2011. To date we have participated in the initial launch meeting in Austria which provided an opportunity for partners to meet and discuss the overall aims of the project. Initial planning for the specific actions of the project were discussed and have been developed further in a series of telephone conference meetings that took place during December 2008.</p> <p>This is an ambitious and challenging project that provides an excellent opportunity for academic staff to engage with a multi-disciplinary team from 7 other European countries. Our involvement will help to raise the profile of the University nationally and internationally. The project also provides an opportunity for us to develop new research proposals and engage with local and international partners on shared areas of interest.</p> <p>We have recently launched a social network for University staff involved in the project as a means of supporting project communications and collaborative work. We have had some early stage discussions with local health and education services with a view to engaging children, families, teachers, health professionals and other stakeholders in collaborative actions to inform a social marketing campaign and the development of training materials for 'Obesity Trainers' across the partner countries.</p>
<b>North West Contact for further information</b>	<p><b>Vincent O'Brien</b> Principal Lecturer in Public Health University of Cumbria UK T: 0044 (0) 1524 384 384 <a href="mailto:vincentobrien@mac.com">vincentobrien@mac.com</a></p>



<b>Title of project</b>	<b>Monitoring positive mental health environments (MMHE)</b>
<b>Duration</b>	24 months
<b>EU Funding Stream</b>	Public Health Programme (DG SANCO)- Health information
<b>Total value of the project (€)</b>	262,887 €
<b>Value to the North West (€)</b>	n/a
<b>North West Partner</b>	National Institute for Mental Health in England
<b>Number of partners in project</b>	6
<b>Objectives of the project</b>	The MMHE project aims to collect, process, analyse and evaluate objective, reliable and comparable available information and data in 17 European regions, to effectively formulate and monitor appropriate strategies, policies and tools in the field of promoting mental health at the Community level.
<b>Contact for further information</b>	<b>J. Agustín Ozamiz</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:jaozamiz@ej-gv.es">jaozamiz@ej-gv.es</a> Website: <a href="http://www.deusto.es">http://www.deusto.es</a>

<b>Title of project</b>	<b>URHIS I European system of urban health indicators</b>
<b>Duration</b>	24 months
<b>EU Funding Stream</b>	EU Public Health Programme (DG SANCO)- Health Information
<b>Total value of the project (€)</b>	1,224,811 €
<b>Value to the North West (€)</b>	664,410 €
<b>North West partners</b>	University of Manchester (Lead coordinating partner); NWHBO; Sefton PCT; Liverpool University
<b>Number of partners in project</b>	15 partner institutions
<b>Objectives of the project</b>	Through active involvement of national authorities and experts, the project contributed to the development of a sustainable urban health information and knowledge system.
<b>How has this EU project been useful to your organisation?</b>	This was the first European Union funded project awarded to the Clinical Epidemiology and Public Health Unit at Manchester University as a lead, co-ordinating partner. It built on and promoted some specific areas of research that the unit were already engaged in and allowed the pursuit of other related research areas. Throughout the lifetime of the project, we engaged the co-operation of public health professionals, in academic institutions and local and national governmental organisations, in all but a few of the European member and accession states. This has proved invaluable in forging important and productive networks for further research in several areas of Public Health research.  The work undertaken in URHIS formed a basis for a further application for European funding for further research work on Urban Health. This application was successful and URHIS II commenced work in January 2009.

<b>North West contact for further information</b>	<b>Lesley Patterson</b> School of Medicine Oxford Road Manchester M13 9PT <a href="mailto:Lesley.patterson@manchester.ac.uk">Lesley.patterson@manchester.ac.uk</a> <a href="mailto:Arpana.verma@manchester.ac.uk">Arpana.verma@manchester.ac.uk</a>
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Title of project	<b>URHIS II</b>
Duration	48 months (Jan 2009 – Dec 2012)
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	3,614,864.00
Value to the North West (€)	1,824,491
North West partners	University of Manchester, North West Health Brussels Office, University of Liverpool
Number of partners in project	17
Objectives of the project	<p><b>The objectives of the second phase of the EURO-URHIS project are to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collect data at Urban Area (UA) level</li> <li>• Provide tools for evidence based policy at all levels (local, national, European, international) for urban areas</li> <li>• Develop methods for cross-sectional and longitudinal assessment for urban population health including all relevant determinants of health</li> <li>• Validate these tools and methods by using existing population-based registries and databases</li> <li>• Apply the tools in the field and ensure they are easy and intuitive to use by policy makers</li> </ul> <p><b>The research questions to be investigated are:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it possible to collect health data at UA level?</li> <li>• How feasible is it to use data at urban level to produce tools to policy makers at local, national and international level?</li> <li>• What relevance will these tools have to policy makers? Are they useful? Are they applicable?</li> </ul>
How has this EU project been useful to your organisation?	This is a research grant which has allowed us to collaborate with many other partner institutions from around the world.
North West contact for further information	<p><b>Dr Arpana Verma</b> Clinical Lecturer Manchester Urban Collaboration on Health Room 2.711 Clinical Epidemiology and Public Health Unit Stopford Building University of Manchester Manchester M13 9PT Tel: 00 44 161 275 5206 Fax: 00 44 161 275 7712 <a href="http://www.medicine.manchester.ac.uk/cephu">www.medicine.manchester.ac.uk/cephu</a> <a href="http://www.urhis.eu">www.urhis.eu</a></p>



Title of project	<b>Working with Communities to Reduce health inequalities: Protecting children and young people from tobacco</b>
Duration	24 month
EU Funding Stream	EU Public Health Programme (DG SANCO) -Health determinants
Total value of the project (€)	388,914
Value to the North West (€)	144 395
North West partner	Co-ordinator / Lead Partner is Liverpool Primary Care Trust Manchester Primary Care Trust is Partner
Number of partners in project	11
Objectives of the project	The objective of the project is to develop effective methods of engaging local communities and “peer groups” to bring about lifestyle changes that generate positive health outcomes and reduce health inequalities. Focusing on tobacco control priorities, this project aims to develop the tools to reduce high smoking prevalence rates amongst young people, and the exposure of children and young people to second-hand smoke. The project targets children and young people from socially excluded and disadvantaged communities that have poor health indicators.
Comment...How has this EU project been useful to your organisation?	The project has enabled us to work collaboratively with our European Partners and gain understanding and learning from them. This has helped us to plan more effectively and consider opportunities and challenges that we may not have otherwise. In addition, working together has helped to create further opportunities of working with other, renowned organisations.
North West contact for further information	<b>Susie Gardiner</b> , Liverpool PCT <a href="mailto:Susie.gardiner@liverpoolpct.nhs.uk">Susie.gardiner@liverpoolpct.nhs.uk</a> 0151 296 7636



Title of project	<b>Health by Wealth Business Starting Programme</b>	
Duration	18 months	
EU Funding Stream	ESF/ERDF Funded	
Total value of the project	£ 3,049,501	
Value to the North West	£ 1,750,000	
North West partner	The Scarman Trust	
Objectives of the project	<p>"Health by Wealth" aims to connect the Health, Business and Research sectors to attack the contradiction presented between an increasingly healthy economy and disproportionately unhealthy population. The core theme of Health by Wealth is therefore aimed at investigating the links between health and sustainable productivity and development. This will help to better align the NHS and local authority Public Health agenda with the goals of the business sector – and will support the NHS in giving a higher priority to its role as a contributor to the local economy.</p> <p>Our joint approach concentrates an innovative package of support based on a mutual partnership compact between entrepreneur and advisor under the slogan 'be your own boss'. We offered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business/Development Plan(s)</li> <li>• Business Bank Account</li> <li>• Accounting Packages and ICT support</li> <li>• Funding Assistance</li> <li>• Additional Resources</li> <li>• Post start-up mentoring</li> <li>• Access to John Moore's University for development support</li> </ul> <p>By stripping away the mystique and bureaucracy, we have simplified the process of business start-up, promoted equitable access and stimulated demand. This has all been achieved against a backdrop of 'experts on tap' and has actively challenged the cost effectiveness of what has often passed for regeneration.</p>	
Comment...How has this EU project been useful to your organisation?	<p>Bringing together a range of partners from the public, private and third sector we have successfully developed a model that addresses key features of seemingly intractable social and economic inequalities. Combining the PCT's public health agenda with EU structural funds our programme harnessed the strengths of all parties. Using expertise from the private sector in the form of accountants, solicitors and banks we have designed a bespoke service that ordinary people can readily access.</p>	
North West contact for further information	<p><b>Business related aspects</b></p> <p><b>Alan Verinder</b> Verinder &amp; Associates 1- 3 Crosby Road South, Waterloo, Sefton, L22 1RG tel: 0151-949-0065 <a href="mailto:alan@verinderassociates.co.uk">alan@verinderassociates.co.uk</a></p>	<p><b>Health related aspects</b></p> <p><b>Thomas Smith</b> ABCD Services Ltd 7, Everest Road, Crosby, Liverpool L23 5TN tel: 0151 924 6208 <a href="mailto:SMITH.T16@sky.com">SMITH.T16@sky.com</a></p>



Title of project	<b>Genotype-to-phenotype databases: A holistic solution (GEN2PHEN)</b>
Duration	60 months (beginning 1/1/2008)
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	11,889,367
North West partner	University of Manchester
Number of partners in project	18
Objectives of the project	<p>The GEN2PHEN project aims to unify human and model organism genetic variation databases towards increasingly holistic views into Genotype-To-Phenotype (G2P) data, and to link this system into other biomedical knowledge sources via genome browser functionality. The project will establish the technological building-blocks needed for the evolution of today's diverse G2P databases into a future seamless G2P biomedical knowledge environment. The project will then utilise these elements to construct an operational first-version of that knowledge environment, by the projects end. This will consist of a European-centred but globally-networked hierarchy of bioinformatics GRID-linked databases, tools and standards, all tied into the Ensembl genome browser.</p> <p><b>The project has the following specific objectives:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To analyse the G2P field and thus determine emerging needs and practices;</li> <li>2. To develop key standards for the G2P database field;</li> <li>3. To create generic database components, services, and integration infrastructures for the G2P database domain;</li> <li>4. To create search modalities and data presentation solutions for G2P knowledge;</li> <li>5. To facilitate the process of populating G2P databases;</li> <li>6. To build a major G2P internet portal;</li> <li>7. To deploy GEN2PHEN solutions to the community;</li> </ol>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>Andrew Devereau</b> University of Manchester <a href="mailto:andrew.devereau@cmmc.nhs.uk">andrew.devereau@cmmc.nhs.uk</a> Tel: 0161 276 8703</p>



Title of project	<b>Access to opioid medication in Europe (ATOME)</b>
Duration	60 months (beginning 2009)
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	2,801,930
North West partner	Lancaster University
Number of partners in project	10
Objectives of the project	<p>Medicines derived from opium are very valuable in medicine practice &amp; therefore regarded as essential medicines. However, they are generally not readily available for patients who are in need of them for medical reasons. It is estimated that over 80% of the world's population is inadequately treated, because opioid (pain relieving) medicines have been categorized as "controlled substances", due to concerns about their possible abuse. These medicines are therefore subject to strong international control, &amp; rendered accessible. Severe under-treatment of pain is reported in more than 150 countries.</p> <p>In 15 countries of the EU-25, medical consumption of opioids (&amp; other medications that are controlled under these conventions) is close to non-existent, consequently a large number of patients are not treated appropriately for moderate to severe pain. The overall goal of this project, is to undertake applied research into the reasons why opioid medicines for moderate to severe pain &amp; for the treatment of opioid dependence are not used adequately in 12 European countries &amp; to elaborate &amp; disseminate tailor-made recommendations to each country for improving the accessibility, availability &amp; affordability of controlled medicines, &amp; disseminate these to governments, health-care professionals, other key decision-making bodies as well as to the general public.</p> <p>The outcome of the research will underpin policy decisions on health systems &amp; more effective &amp; efficient evidence-based strategies for health therapies (pain management) in 12 European countries, thereby contributing to the realization of the activity area that frames the specific call to which this project responds, Optimizing the Delivery of Health Care to European Citizens &amp; the overarching EU values of "universality, access to good health care, equity &amp; solidarity, aiming to make provision that is patient-centred &amp; responsive to individual need".</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>Sheila PAYNE</b>            Director of the International Observatory on End of Life Care at Lancaster University  <a href="mailto:s.a.payne@lancaster.ac.uk">s.a.payne@lancaster.ac.uk</a>            Telephone: +44(0)1524 593701            Project website : <a href="http://www.atome-project.eu/">http://www.atome-project.eu/</a></p>



<b>Title of project</b>	<b>Coordination, rationalisation and integration of anti-malarial drug discovery initiatives (CRIMALDDI)</b>
<b>Duration</b>	24 months
<b>EU Funding Stream</b>	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
<b>Total value of the project (€)</b>	500,000
<b>North West partner</b>	Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine
<b>Number of partners in project</b>	8
<b>Objectives of the project</b>	Antimalarial drug discovery and development initiatives globally are fragmented and uncoordinated. We have brought together key organisations including MMV, WHO and AntiMal, an EU-funded FP6 Integrated Project represented by its coordinating institution and a number of academic malaria researchers, to resolve this problem through a logical series of meetings, conferences, workshops and dissemination strategies. The Gates Foundation will be involved as an invited participant. The action will co-ordinate leading European malaria research initiatives in antimalarial drug discovery and development, co-ordinate the European effort with international initiatives, engage industry and provide guidance on standardisation of core requirements of regulatory drug development. This will contribute towards generating global priorities and prepare the European antimalarial research agenda for the next decade.
<b>North West contact for further information</b>	<b>HOLLAND Robert</b> Einion Tel: +44-151 7053167 Fax: +44-151 7053363 Email: <a href="#">Contact</a>



Title of project	<b>Finding biomarkers of anti-microbial drug resistance via a systems biology analysis of fungal pathogen interactions with the human immune system (SYBARIS)</b>
Duration	26 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	4,290,000
North West partner	University of Manchester
Number of partners in project	7
Objectives of the project	<p>We propose a systems biology study of the specificity of response of the cell-mediated immune system to fungal microorganisms in order to investigate the genetic basis of susceptibility to fungal disease and elucidate molecular mechanisms of drug resistance in fungal pathogens. An integrative approach, combining high-throughput and traditional wet-lab work with computational and bioinformatics methods, will be applied to identify biomarkers of resistance to currently available treatments and to develop novel putative drug target genes and pathways in different fungi.</p> <p>We will use <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>, a normally non-pathogenic yeast model organism, <i>Candida albicans</i> and <i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i>, two major recognized fungal pathogens as well as other <i>Aspergillus</i> spp. known to be multi-drug resistant and difficult to treat. This project meets the criteria of the call, the strategic objective of which is to confront the increasing emergence and spread of antimicrobial drug resistant pathogens in Europe by addressing a well-defined class of infectious disease caused by fungal pathogens, with significant morbidity and mortality in a large segment of the population, and a high economic cost due to resistance. The anticipated results are highly relevant to society in terms of reducing the burden of mortality and suffering in immunosuppressed patients and in terms of reducing medical costs associated with treating opportunistic fungal infections.</p> <p>The potential economic upside for novel broad-spectrum anti-infectives is very large. The worldwide market for antifungals is currently estimated at \$4 billion US annually. We tackle the issues of anti-microbial drug resistance head on via a multidisciplinary systems biology study combining bacterial genetics, clinical and pharmacological research in a systems biology approach, integrating traditional wet-lab methods with those of functional genomics, proteomics, metabolomics and bioinformatics.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>BARON Barbara</b>          Tel: +44-1223492520          Fax: +44-1223494468          Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



<b>Title of project</b>	<b>Affording recovery in stroke (ARISE)</b>
<b>Duration</b>	60 months
<b>EU Funding Stream</b>	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
<b>Total value of the project (€)</b>	14,570,000
<b>North West partner</b>	University of Manchester
<b>Number of partners in project</b>	15
<b>Objectives of the project</b>	<p>We propose a systems biology study of the specificity of response of the cell-mediated immune system to fungal microorganisms in order to investigate the genetic basis of susceptibility to fungal disease and elucidate molecular mechanisms of drug resistance in fungal pathogens. An integrative approach, combining high-throughput and traditional wet-lab work with computational and bioinformatics methods, will be applied to identify biomarkers of resistance to currently available treatments and to develop novel putative drug target genes and pathways in different fungi.</p> <p>We will use <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>, a normally non-pathogenic yeast model organism, <i>Candida albicans</i> and <i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i>, two major recognized fungal pathogens as well as other <i>Aspergillus</i> spp. known to be multi-drug resistant and difficult to treat. This project meets the criteria of the call, the strategic objective of which is to confront the increasing emergence and spread of antimicrobial drug resistant pathogens in Europe by addressing a well-defined class of infectious disease caused by fungal pathogens, with significant morbidity and mortality in a large segment of the population, and a high economic cost due to resistance. The anticipated results are highly relevant to society in terms of reducing the burden of mortality and suffering in immunosuppressed patients and in terms of reducing medical costs associated with treating opportunistic fungal infections.</p> <p>The potential economic upside for novel broad-spectrum anti-infectives is very large. The worldwide market for antifungals is currently estimated at \$4 billion US annually. We tackle the issues of anti-microbial drug resistance head on via a multidisciplinary systems biology study combining bacterial genetics, clinical and pharmacological research in a systems biology approach, integrating traditional wet-lab methods with those of functional genomics, proteomics, metabolomics and bioinformatics.</p>
<b>Contact for further information</b>	<p><b>FRÄSSDORF Eveline</b>            Tel: +49-30450576024            Fax: +49-30450576954            Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



Title of project	<b>European research initiative to develop Imaging Probes for early In-vivo Diagnosis and Evaluation of response to therapeutic substances (EURIPIDES)</b>
Duration	48 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	6,990,000
North West partner	University of Manchester and University of Liverpool
Number of partners in project	13
Objectives of the project	<p>We aim develop in-vivo imaging biomarker of multidrug transporter function as a generic tool for the prediction, diagnosis, monitoring and prognosis of major CNS diseases, as well as to provide support and guidance for therapeutic interventions. Multidrug transporters actively transport substrates (including multiple CNS drugs) against concentration gradients across the blood-brain barrier (BBB). Overactivity of these efflux transporters results in inadequate access of CNS drugs to their targets and hampers the build up of adequate tissue levels of these drugs in the brain, greatly limiting their therapeutic efficacy.</p> <p>As such, this “transporter hypothesis” of drug resistance is applicable to a broad range of CNS drugs and patients with a variety of CNS diseases who critically depend on these drugs. Efflux transporters may also influence brain elimination of A<sup>β</sup>, the hallmark of Alzheimer s disease (AD). Impaired multidrug transporter function with reduced clearance of A<sup>β</sup> could lead to accumulation within the extracellular space, contributing to the pathogenesis of AD.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>LEE Kent</b> Tel: +44-2076796296 Fax: +44-2076796502 Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



Title of project	<b>Assessment of hearing in the elderly: aging and degeneration - integration through immediate intervention (AHEAD III)</b>
Duration	36 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	1,090,000
North West partner	The University Of Manchester
Number of partners in project	17
Objectives of the project	<p>Hearing loss is one of the most common chronic health conditions in the elderly population with important implications for patient quality of life. The diminished ability to hear and to communicate is frustrating in and of itself, but the strong association of hearing loss with depression and functional decline adds further to the burden on individuals who are hearing impaired. Hearing loss can limit communications skills: not to hear means not to understand what is being said. Hence deafness does not produce compassion but do often produce a sense of irritation. Despite the prevalence and burden of hearing loss, hearing impairment is largely under-diagnosed in older persons and under-treated.</p> <p>The reason for this is that one of the most conspicuous signs of a hearing loss is that it cannot be seen! Actually, this is the reason why deafness does not receive the necessary attention. Too often, the public and still too many health care professionals underestimate the dramatic effects of deafness. Novel strategies should be explored to make screening and early intervention a feasible part of routine care.</p> <p><b>Project AHEAD III has been specifically designed to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide evidence of the effects of hearing impairment in adults and particularly in the elderly.</li> </ul>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>GRANDORI Ferdinando</b>          Tel: +39-02-23993345          Fax: +39-02-23993367          Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



<b>Title of project</b>	<b>Pathophysiology and natural course of autoimmune adrenal failure in Europe (EURADRENAL)</b>
<b>Duration</b>	48 months
<b>EU Funding Stream</b>	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
<b>Total value of the project (€)</b>	3,000,000
<b>North West partner</b>	The University Of Manchester
<b>Number of partners in project</b>	17
<b>Objectives of the project</b>	<p>Autoimmune Addison s disease (AAD) is an endocrine disease resulting from the immune system s destruction of hormone producing cells in the adrenal cortex. Diagnosis is frequently first established after a life-threatening adrenal crisis, often resulting in untimely fatalities. The disease is rare, more common in women than in men, and also affects children. AAD very frequently occurs with other autoimmune diseases, such as type 1 diabetes mellitus, autoimmune thyroid disease and/or premature ovarian failure. Based on a European network of patient registry and biobanks, a translational approach using genetics, immunology, clinical management, and epidemiology, the project aims to unravel the pathogenesis and natural course of AAD, ultimately to improve diagnosis and treatment as well as to offer strategies for disease prevention.</p> <p>The consortium capitalises on the joint cutting edge expertise of leading European investigators covering all these fields. Exploiting these resources, we will describe the natural course of the disease with focus on factors limiting quality of life, and identify and characterise the disease-causing genes, using the corresponding disease in a spontaneous dog model and a gene targeted mouse model. In parallel, the cellular and molecular mechanisms of autoimmunity directed at the adrenal cortex will be unravelled both in humans with ADD and in the genetic mouse model. Together, these efforts will increase our still incomplete understanding of pathogenic pathways operational in AAD and pave the way for new therapies of this debilitating disorder. Moreover, clinical studies will be performed to evaluate more physiological and personalised treatment with cortisol also aimed at prevention. As an autoimmune model disease the results of the project will not only lead to the development of novel diagnostic and therapeutic interventions for Addison patients, but also increase our understanding of the pathogenesis of autoimmune diseases in general.</p>
<b>North West contact for further information</b>	<p><b>GJESDAHL Inger</b> Tel: +47-55584998 Fax: +47-55584991 Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



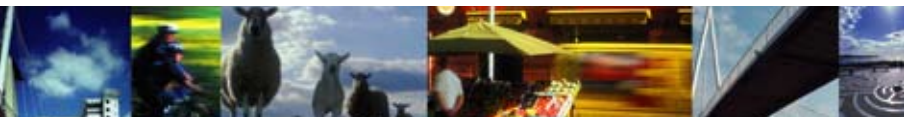
Title of project	<b>Understanding and combating human age-related muscle weakness (MYOAGE)</b>
Duration	48 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	11,200,000
North West partner	The Manchester Metropolitan University
Number of partners in project	18
Objectives of the project	<p>Ageing of skeletal muscle results in a progressive loss of mobility that decreases the quality of life and has major economic and social consequences for society at large. Increasing muscle weakness is a major component of muscle ageing. In the elderly muscles become atrophic (loss in muscle mass) and weaker (loss in muscle force), more susceptible to damage and consequently regenerate and recover more slowly than was the case in their youth.</p> <p>The challenge for FP7 is to identify the relative importance of sarcopaenia, thus proposing standards to define healthy ageing in order to identify age-related muscle weakness; secondly to identify molecular pathways which may be targeted to combat normal age related muscle weakness, and thirdly to identify therapeutic strategies to prevent muscle loss and weakness and enhance recovery following injury or immobilisation.</p> <p>The approaches which we will take to understand and combat muscle weakness in the aged population and improve healthspan can be defined in several steps: the collection and collation of data and samples, the assessment of physiological and functional parameters, the understanding of the various biological mechanisms involved, leading through integration to the development of strategies and their translation for the general European population.</p> <p>In order to develop and propose the general public with efficient countermeasures, the consortium will integrate data from genetics and epidemiology, molecular and cellular biology, physiology, biomechanics, as well as clinical and public health aspects, to ensure optimal scientific synergy from the leading European specialists and companies.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>AUGUSTE Mihaja</b> Tel: +33-148073415 Fax: +33-148073432 Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



Title of project	<b>Safety and appropriateness of Growth hormone treatments in Europe (SAGHE)</b>
Duration	36 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	2,990,000
North West partner	The University Of Manchester
Number of partners in project	9
Objectives of the project	<p>Recombinant growth hormone (GH) has been used since 1985. Current indications for GH use in children include GH deficiency and an increasing number of conditions where childhood short stature is not primarily due to deficient GH secretion.</p> <p>Approximately 40 000 children in the EU are treated with daily injections of GH. The efficacy of GH to increase adult height is undisputed in children with severe GH deficiency but is more limited in other indications where current estimates suggest a gain of about 1 cm of adult height per year of treatment. The clinical significance of height gains has been poorly evaluated. The possibility has been raised that GH use in childhood might increase the risk of cancer later in life. However, little data is available to further explore this concern.</p> <p>SAGhE is an integrated consortium of paediatric endocrinologist, epidemiologists and biostatisticians that will collect and analyse data to address the questions of appropriateness and safety of childhood GH treatments. The impact on both height and psychosocial components will be evaluated on a large unbiased metacohort of patients followed to adult height. Safety will be evaluated by analysing long term mortality and long term cancer incidence.</p> <p>The data obtained will then be integrated and disseminated to several levels of users. SAGhE will contribute to the aims of the FP7 Health work programme and to the new Community Action programme of public Health in the field of better use of medicines. It will realize the application of evidence-based medicine in Europe, by the size and design of the study, the independence and scientific quality of data analysis and its translation into evidence-based guidelines. It will be comprehensive at the EU level and will test for national differences. It will address patient safety, one of the key points of the work programme.</p> <p>SAGhE is unique worldwide in its design, size and potential to answer important questions raised on childhood GH treatments.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>MISSE Christophe</b> Tel: +33-144841770 Fax: +33-144841788 Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



Title of project	<b>Quantitative pathway analysis of natural variation in complex disease signaling in <i>C. elegans</i> (PANACEA)</b>
Duration	48 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	2,800,000
North West partner	The University Of Manchester
Number of partners in project	4
Objectives of the project	<p>Complex human diseases account for 60% of the deaths in Europe. The genetic variation that is the genetic make-up of all alleles at all loci - of complex disease pathways determines individual disease susceptibility and treatment prospects. Because humans are genetically diverse the EC prioritizes research which leads to a better understanding of the natural variation in genetic pathways underlying complex diseases.</p> <p>But for ethical reasons there is insufficient statistical power to identify these genetic mechanisms in large human populations. Therefore the extent and importance of natural variation in disease signaling pathways of complex human diseases remains largely unknown. PANACEA will investigate the influence of natural variation in genetic pathways in the worm <i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i>. <i>C. elegans</i> is an important model for the identification and characterization of genes associated with cancer in humans. Therefore PANACEA focuses on cancer signaling pathways as a prototypical example of a complex disease.</p> <p><b>The project will address two pivotal questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• how natural genetic variation affects complex disease signaling pathways,</li> <li>• whether we can predict the effect of the natural genetic variation on these pathways.</li> </ul> <p>We will collect, store and analyze high-through put genomic and proteomic data in genetically highly diverse populations. In conjunction with cellular developmental data we will construct a systems biology model aiming to describe and understand the effect of natural variation on cancer signaling pathways.</p> <p><b>The outcomes will provide:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an extensive data base of novel candidate genes and their genetic variation,</li> <li>• a comprehensive systems biology analysis of how this genetic variation affects cancer development.</li> </ul> <p>PANACEA advances the FP6 projects ESBIC-D, CASIMIR and EURATools by providing new data and insights which will strongly benefit the field of systems biology in human health research in the EU.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>JULLENS Rudie</b> Tel: +31-317485829 Fax: +31-317481183 Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



<b>Title of project</b>	<b>High throughput molecular diagnostics in individual patients for genetic diseases with heterogeneous clinical presentation (TECHGENE)</b>
<b>Duration</b>	36 months
<b>EU Funding Stream</b>	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
<b>Total value of the project (€)</b>	3,000,000
<b>North West partner</b>	The University Of Manchester
<b>Number of partners in project</b>	11
<b>Objectives of the project</b>	<p>Since the sequencing of the human genome has been completed the demand for genetic analysis in the human health care system is drastically increasing, and the extension of molecular genetic diagnostics is urgently needed. However, the majority of genetic diseases is molecularly and clinically highly heterogeneous, and until recently the available techniques lacked the required capacity to analyze several genes in parallel.</p> <p>The recently introduced high-throughput whole genome sequencing (WGS) technology now offers the unique opportunity to extend molecular genetic analysis by introducing these techniques, and develop taylormade medical resequencing approaches for molecular genetic diagnosis of heterogeneous disorders. This project aims to deliver crucial innovations leading to these approaches, and to deliver a proof-of-principle for its implementation in selected model disorders. The model disorders have been selected with increasing genetic complexity, and represent the majority of non-multifactorial genetic disorders. The current momentum to perform these innovations by a European consortium of clinical genetic diagnostic laboratories and research laboratories and industrial stakeholders will lead to a front-running position of European laboratories and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in this field.</p> <p>The consortium putting forward this proposal consists of leading scientists and established laboratories providing cutting edge knowledge with respect to quality management aspects, ethical and societal issues, and cost effectiveness issues. This is the only approach that will warrant the development of diagnostic tools designed to restrict genetic testing to relevant medical factors. For European SMEs this proposal offers the opportunity to identify niches in the steadily increasing molecular genetic market. A specially designed training programme will take care of rapid dissemination of the acquired knowledge and tools across Europe.</p>
<b>North West contact for further information</b>	<p><b>VAN OIJEN Wim</b>          Tel: +31-243619419          Fax: +31-243540529          Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



Title of project	<b>Metastatic tumours facilitated by hypoxic tumour micro-environments (METOXIA)</b>
Duration	60 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	12,000,000
North West partner	The University Of Manchester
Number of partners in project	21
Objectives of the project	<p>Recent research suggests that the hypoxic micro-environment of tumours is one of the major drivers of metastatic spread of cancer. Furthermore, hypoxic tumour micro-environments may result in treatment resistance of cancer cells, therefore causing a double effect of reducing the potential of a successful treatment of the cancer patient.</p> <p>This project seeks to clarify the roles and functions of the hypoxic tumour micro-environment in relation to the survival of solid tumours likely to metastasise.</p> <p>We will gain new knowledge about molecular mechanisms behind hypoxia-driven metastasis, like the epithelial-mesenchymal transition (EMT) by several routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• mechanisms related to cell growth- and cell proliferation (UPR, mTOR, CA9, HIF, Notch, and VHL)</li> <li>• angiogenesis and lymphangiogenesis</li> <li>• metabolism and pH-regulation</li> <li>• the handling of reactive oxygen species (ROS).</li> </ul> <p>We will generate animal models for the study of the role of hypoxia in metastases and develop a bio-bank of tumour and blood samples for molecular diagnostic studies. We will identify and develop advanced imaging techniques and biomarkers and identify micro-metastases in bone marrow of patients to assist in the selection of appropriate stratification of the actual primary tumours and metastases micro-environmental conditions. We will also create a machine-learning based classifier of tumour hypoxia.</p> <p>The consortium has the necessary expertise to perform proof-of-principle clinical testing of new treatment strategies. We will thus perform clinical tests of new drugs developed to attack the regulatory mechanisms selected from the pre-clinical work and possible synergisms of combined treatments. We will also test new radiotherapy strategies for treatment of primary as well as metastatic tumours.</p> <p>Cancer types chosen for clinical studies are non-small-cell lung carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma of the larynx, prostate cancer, primary breast cancer and rectal cancer.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>BRUVOLL Heidi</b> Tel: +47-22856429 Fax: +47-22856422 Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



Title of project	<b>Cis-regulatory logic of the transcriptional control in neural stem cells (CISSTEM)</b>
Duration	36 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	2,980,000
North West partner	The University Of Manchester
Number of partners in project	8
Objectives of the project	<p>Neural stem cells (NSCs) have emerged as a major topic in neurobiology. The persistence of multipotent cells in the adult mammalian brain offers a realistic chance for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases. It is thus crucial to understand NSCs from as many as possible angles (e. g. cellular and molecular biology), in order to better isolate and successfully manipulate them. CISSTEM presents a post-genomic systems biology approach, taking advantage of new computational and experimental tools to address the specification and maintenance of NSCs at the transcriptional/epigenetic level.</p> <p>CISSTEM is designed to unravel the basic principles of gene regulation in NSC, with a focus on cis-regulatory modules (CRMs). To do so we follow a multidisciplinary approach tightly interconnecting computational prediction and experimental validation in vitro and in vivo using different vertebrate models systems. Major intermediate objectives of this project are the prediction of relevant elements and the identification of the temporal, spatial and quantitative activities of predicted conserved regulatory motifs associated with NSC expressed genes. To achieve this goal, CISSTEM will develop computational tools and resources for the in silico identification of CRMs and transcription factor binding sites (TFBSs).</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>JOLY Jean-Stéphane</b>          Tel: +33-0169824188          Fax: +33-0169070538          Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



Title of project	<b>A European platform of integrated information services for researchers in the field of rare diseases and orphan drugs supporting team and project building (RAREDISEASEPLATFORM)</b>
Duration	36 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	957,206
North West partner	The University Of Manchester
Number of partners in project	12
Objectives of the project	<p>This project aims at creating a set of tools intended to facilitate collaborations between academic teams, SMEs and even major companies, in the field of rare diseases (RD). These tools will contribute to building up a community of stakeholders with the ultimate goal of speeding up RD research and development, providing diagnostic tools and therapies as quickly as possible.</p> <p><b>The specific objectives are to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identify expert groups in Europe, on-going funded research projects, technological platforms, databases and biobanks relevant to RD research and to release the information in a user-friendly manner on the existing Orphanet website.</li> <li>• identify, among research projects funded at the MS level and at the EU level, those which are in need of partnership with other academic teams and/or which have a potential for market development and may benefit from a partnership with Industry.</li> <li>• release the information on partnership opportunities on the existing OrphanXchange website and adapt the website to meet the needs of all the types of partnerships identified so far.</li> <li>• develop partner search facilities based on the above mentioned databases and on an ad-hoc basis.</li> <li>• develop an electronic newsletter informing the community about newly posted partnership requests and business opportunities.</li> <li>• organise two workshops with top experts to analyse areas in need of collaborative research projects.</li> </ul> <p><b>The new facilities will be developed from three existing RD websites previously funded through EC grants:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.orphanplatform.org">www.orphanplatform.org</a> serving as a management tool and a follow-up tool between partners.</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.orphanXchange.org">www.orphanXchange.org</a> serving as a tool to facilitate partnership between academic researchers, Industry, and private companies</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.orpha.net">www.orpha.net</a> providing information on on-going research activities in Europe. This project is based on input from four EU projects: Orphanet, OrphanPlatform, E-Rare (<a href="http://www.erare.eu">www.erare.eu</a>) and the RD Task Force (<a href="http://www.rdtf.org">www.rdtf.org</a>).</li> </ul>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>AYMÉ Ségolène</b> Tel: +33-156538137 Fax: +33-156538138 Email: <a href="mailto:ayme.segolene@man.ac.uk">Contact</a></p>



Title of project	<b>Learning from international networks about errors and understanding safety in primary care (LINNEAUS EURO -PC)</b>
Duration	48 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	2,460,000
North West partner	The University Of Manchester
Number of partners in project	6
Objectives of the project	<p>There is a deficit in activity related to patient safety in primary care and the primary care/secondary care interface in Europe. This deficit relates to research, to sharing of information, to learning and to collaboration.</p> <p><b>This co-ordination action will specifically address issues addressed in the call through:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The development of a taxonomy of adverse events and errors.</li> <li>• Identifying best clinical practice and the way that it improves patient safety through an understanding of decision making and medication errors in primary care.</li> <li>• Achieve consensus on the measurement of safety culture and leadership in the primary care context and develop agreement on indicators which can be used to assess improvements in safety culture.</li> <li>• Enhancing existing knowledge from quality improvement techniques which are widely used in the primary care setting and applying these to learning cycles for improvements in patient safety.</li> <li>• Develop a reporting system which can be used for identifying errors in primary care in countries where activities related to patient safety in primary care are in a nascent state and develop a framework for the development of patient safety initiatives in these nascent organizations.</li> <li>• Identifying methods to involve patients in patient safety initiatives in primary care.</li> </ul> <p>Building up an existing network of researchers into a pan European network, this co-ordination action will extend the current knowledge and experience from countries where the importance of patient safety is nationally recognized to countries where it is less developed, ensure that there is an appropriate focus on primary care and encourage co-operation and collaboration for future interventions through large scale trials. We aim to substantially increase the level of activity in relation to sharing information through workshops and seminars.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>ESMAIL Aneez</b> Tel: +44-1612751866 Fax: +44-1612757600 Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



Title of project	<b>Mediterranean studies of cardiovascular disease and hyperglycaemia: analytical modelling of population socio-economic transitions (MEDCHAMPS)</b>
Duration	42 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	2,700,000
North West partner	The University Of Liverpool
Number of partners in project	6
Objectives of the project	<p>Non-communicable diseases (NCDs), particularly cardiovascular diseases (CVD) and diabetes are increasing dramatically in low and middle income countries. The main reasons for this are an increase in major risk factors, particularly increasing obesity [as a consequence of changes in nutrition and decreases in physical activity], and increasing tobacco use. Globalisation, urbanisation and an ageing population are contributing to this trend.</p> <p>A common misperception is that NCDs are diseases of affluence, but in fact they are common amongst poorer sectors of populations, and age-specific disease rates can be higher in developing countries than in industrialised settings. Health services in these countries, developed to tackle acute infectious diseases, are often not ideally organised to promote effective care and prevention for NCDs. This project will develop a CVD and diabetes model (IMPACT) for use in this region. After appropriate testing and validation, we will enter data from each of the four Mediterranean study countries (Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey) into the model, and validate results against current disease levels and trends. We will use a combination of situation analysis, policy and document review, and qualitative techniques to elicit the current state of NCD policy development in the study countries, and stakeholders perceptions of potentially effective interventions.</p> <p>We will then use the country validated models to assess the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of selected future policies. Finally, we will develop implementation and evaluation plans for these policies in each study country. The goal of this project is to reduce the NCD burden of CVD and diabetes. The overall objective is to be able to make recommendations about the policy initiatives, both within and outside the health sector, likely to be the most effective and cost-effective in reducing the burden of CVD and diabetes mortality and morbidity in each country.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>GREGORY Amanda</b> Tel: +44-0191-2225818 Fax: +44-0191-2228954 Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



Title of project	<b>Facilitating implementation of research evidence (FIRE)</b>
Duration	48 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	3,000,000
North West partner	The University Of Manchester
Number of partners in project	7
Objectives of the project	<p>Facilitating Implementation of Research Evidence (FIRE) is a proposed four year programme of research to identify and validate key factors determining the successful implementation of research evidence in practice. The study is underpinned by a conceptual framework, the Promoting Action on Research Implementation in Health Services (PARiHS) framework, which proposes that the successful implementation of research evidence is dependent on the complex interplay of the evidence, the context of implementation and the way the process is facilitated. The planned research will focus on evaluating the feasibility and effectiveness of facilitation as an implementation strategy.</p> <p>A randomised, controlled trial with three intervention arms (standard dissemination and two different models of facilitation) and six units in each of five countries (four in Europe, plus Canada; n=30) is planned. The units will be asked to implement research based guidance on continence promotion and receive differing levels of facilitation support to do so. Detailed contextual, process and outcome data will be collected to fully explore the complex processes at work during implementation. With the combination of an international consortium and experienced research team, a theory-driven, multi-method evaluation study and detailed attention to stakeholder involvement and dissemination throughout the research, the study has the potential to make a significant contribution to the knowledge and practice of translating research evidence at a clinical, organisational and policy level, within Europe and internationally.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>PREWETT Jane</b> Tel: +44-2476522746 Fax: +44-02476524991 Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



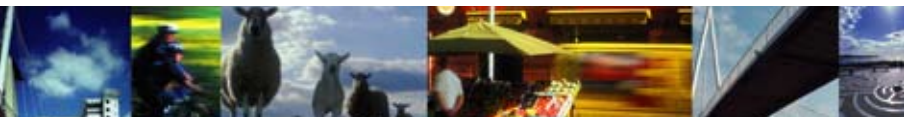
Title of project	<b>Fighting osteoporosis by blocking nucleotides: purinergic signalling in bone formation and homeostasis (ATPBONE)</b>
Duration	36 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	3,000,000
North West partner	The University Of Liverpool
Number of partners in project	6
Objectives of the project	<p>Osteoporosis is a disabling disease and the incidence is expected to increase Neural stem cells (NSCs) have emerged as a major topic in neurobiology. The persistence of multipotent cells in the adult mammalian brain offers a realistic chance for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases. It is thus crucial to understand NSCs from as many as possible angles (e. g. cellular and molecular biology), in order to better isolate and successfully manipulate them.</p> <p>CISSTEM presents a post-genomic systems biology approach, taking advantage of new computational and experimental tools to address the specification and maintenance of NSCs at the transcriptional/epigenetic level. CISSTEM is designed to unravel the basic principles of gene regulation in NSC, with a focus on cis-regulatory modules (CRMs). To do so we follow a multidisciplinary approach tightly interconnecting computational prediction and experimental validation in vitro and in vivo using different vertebrate models systems. Major intermediate objectives of this project are the prediction of relevant elements and the identification of the temporal, spatial and quantitative activities of predicted conserved regulatory motifs associated with NSC expressed genes.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>JOHANSEN Jesper</b> Thyge          Tel: +45-43232104          Fax: +45-43233900          Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



<p>Title of project</p>	<p><b>Evaluation of antibiotics (ciprofloxacin and fluconazole) for the treatment of infections in preterm and term neonates (TINN)</b></p>
<p>Duration</p>	<p>60 months</p>
<p>EU Funding Stream</p>	<p>Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)</p>
<p>Total value of the project (€)</p>	<p>5,160,000</p>
<p>North West partner</p>	<p>The University Of Liverpool</p>
<p>Number of partners in project</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>Objectives of the project</p>	<p>The aim of TINN is to evaluate ciprofloxacin and fluconazole in neonates; two anti-infectious drugs included in the EMEA priority list of the therapeutic areas that need specific drug evaluation in preterm and term neonates. These drugs are prescribed off-label to treat neonatal infections that are life threatening situations and associated with long-term complications. In order to validate the use of these two drugs in these high risk populations, TINN involves European leaders in neonatology, paediatric pharmacology, methodology and SME and has established a close collaboration between academia, ethical bodies, regulatory authorities and pharmaceutical companies.</p> <p>For both drugs, the project will perform in silico experimentations, animal studies and evaluate formulations adapted to neonates. Designs will be optimized using age-appropriate state-of-the-art methods adapted to neonates, include pharmacokinetics and pharmacogenetics in order to validate the components of a Paediatric Investigation Plan. The two trials will be performed with neonatologists trained in paediatric pharmacology and clinical research who respect Good Clinical Practices. All the ethical issues related to the two trials will be considered in particular pain and distress, blood sampling (number and volume) and informed consent. Parent information sheets and consent form submitted to parents associations for approval. TINN will include short-term safety (based on vital signs, blood safety data and function of the major organs) and potential for long-term adverse reactions. Results will be also reported in order to allow a PUMA application and to improve neonatal care, through scientific societies.</p> <p>Therefore, TINN will strengthen the European role in drug evaluation in paediatric patients and will support initiatives of the European pharmaceutical industry. Increasing the appropriate use of medicines in children will be of direct benefit to children, their families and health professionals.</p>
<p>North West contact for further information</p>	<p><b>LOPES Isabelle</b>          Tel: +33-143622700          Fax: +33-143622701          Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



<b>Title of project</b>	<b>A pharmacogenomic approach to coumarin anticoagulant therapy (EU-PACT)</b>
<b>Duration</b>	48 months
<b>EU Funding Stream</b>	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
<b>Total value of the project (€)</b>	2,540,000
<b>North West partner</b>	The University Of Liverpool
<b>Number of partners in project</b>	10
<b>Objectives of the project</b>	<p>The effectiveness of treatment with oral anticoagulants in the prevention of thrombotic disorders is well established, but these drugs are potentially dangerous because of their narrow therapeutic index. In Europe three coumarins are used: warfarin, acenocoumarol, and phenprocoumon. Genetic factors that have been recently demonstrated to change the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of coumarins are the presence of polymorphisms in the genes encoding for CYP2C9 and VKOR (vitamin K epoxide reductase complex). Polymorphisms in these genes are associated with increased risk for severe overanticoagulation and bleedings. A clinical trial will be performed in seven European countries to determine whether knowledge of the genotype of patients at the start of coumarin treatment will increase the safety of use of these compounds and whether such gene testing is cost-effective. Patients will be randomized to receive treatment with a coumarin either dosed with an algorithm that does not include information on their genotype, or with an algorithm that does contain this information. The primary outcome will be time within therapeutic INR range. Secondary outcomes include INR&gt;4 and bleedings.</p>
<b>North West contact for further information</b>	<p><b>DEKOK-BAAN Rinske</b>          Tel: +31-30-2538229          Fax: +31-30-2531645          Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



Title of project	<b>Eukaryotic unicellular organism biology systems biology of the control of cell growth and proliferation (UNICELLSYS)</b>
Duration	60 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	11,700,000
North West partner	The University Of Manchester
Number of partners in project	15
Objectives of the project	<p>The overall objective of UNICELLSYS is a quantitative understanding of fundamental characteristics of eukaryotic unicellular organism biology; how cell growth and proliferation are controlled and coordinated by extracellular and intrinsic stimuli. Achieving an understanding of the principles with which bio-molecular systems function requires integrating quantitative experimentation with simulations of dynamic mathematical models. UNICELLSYS bring together a consortium of leading European experimental and computational systems biologists that will study cell growth and proliferation at the levels of cell population, single cell, cellular network, large-scale dynamic systems and functional module.</p> <p>Building computational reconstructions and dynamic models will involve different precise quantitative measurements as well as complementary approaches of mathematical modelling. A major challenge will be the generation of comprehensive dynamic models of the entire control system of cell growth and proliferation, which will require integration of smaller sub-models and reduction of complexity. Implementation of the models will allow observing responses to altered growth conditions zooming in seamlessly from populations consisting of cells of different replicative age and cell cycle stage via genome-wide molecular networks.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>AHLQWIST Margareta</b>          Tel: +46-317865345          Fax: +46-31-7864355          Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



Title of project	<b>Malaria transmission blocking by vaccines, drugs and immune mosquitoes: efficacy assessment and targets (TRANSMALARIABLOC)</b>
Duration	48 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	2,990,000
North West partner	Liverpool School Of Tropical Medicine
Number of partners in project	6
Objectives of the project	<p>The overall objective of UNICELLSYS is a quantitative understanding of fundamental characteristics of eukaryotic unicellular organism biology: how cell growth and proliferation are controlled and coordinated by extracellular and intrinsic stimuli. Achieving an understanding of the principles with which bio-molecular systems function requires integrating quantitative experimentation with simulations of dynamic mathematical models. UNICELLSYS bring together a consortium of leading European experimental and computational systems biologists that will study cell growth and proliferation at the levels of cell population, single cell, cellular network, large-scale dynamic systems and functional module.</p> <p>Building computational reconstructions and dynamic models will involve different precise quantitative measurements as well as complementary approaches of mathematical modelling. A major challenge will be the generation of comprehensive dynamic models of the entire control system of cell growth and proliferation, which will require integration of smaller sub-models and reduction of complexity. Implementation of the models will allow observing responses to altered growth conditions zooming in seamlessly from populations consisting of cells of different replicative age and cell cycle stage via genome-wide molecular networks.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>ALASYA Brooke</b>          Tel: +44-2075941181          Fax: +44-2075941418          Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



Title of project	<b>Unravelling the molecular basis of common complex human disorders using the dog as a model system (LUPA)</b>
Duration	48 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	12,000,000
North West partner	The University Of Liverpool The University Of Manchester
Number of partners in project	21
Objectives of the project	<p>Despite major efforts, identifying susceptibility genes for common human diseases - cancer, cardiovascular, inflammatory and neurological disorders - is difficult due to the complexity of the underlying causes. The dog population is composed of ~ 400 purebred breeds; each one is a genetic isolate with unique characteristics resulting from persistent selection for desired attributes or from genetic drift / inbreeding.</p> <p>Dogs tend to suffer from the same range of diseases than human but the genetic complexity of these diseases within a breed is reduced as a consequence of the genetic drift and due to long-range linkage disequilibrium the number of SNP markers needed to perform whole genome scans is divided by at least ten. Here, we propose a European effort gathering experts in genomics to take advantage of this extraordinary genetic model. Veterinary clinics from 12 European countries will collect DNA samples from large cohorts of dogs suffering from a range of thoroughly defined diseases of relevance to human health. Once these different cohorts will be built, DNA samples will be sent to a centralized, high-throughput SNP genotyping facility.</p>
North West contact for further information	<b>LEQUARRÉ Anne-Sophie</b> Tel: +32-26733881 Fax: +32-43664116 Email: <a href="#">Contact</a>



Title of project	<b>Markers for emphysema versus airway disease in COPD (EVA)</b>
Duration	36 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	2,980,000
North West partner	The University Of Manchester
Number of partners in project	13
Objectives of the project	<p>COPD is characterized by emphysema (destruction of the lung alveoli) and airway disease (inflammation and thickening of the bronchial wall) both of which lead to airway obstruction. These two features co-exist in most patients but some patients present with only emphysema (E) or only airway disease (A).</p> <p>The aim of the project is to identify markers specific to E and A of COPD. Our hypothesis is that the mechanisms leading to these pathologies are distinct with respect to the type of inflammatory response and in terms of genetic predisposition. The differential pathogenesis for emphysema (E) and inflammatory airway disease (A) entails that in the two forms of COPD are linked to different markers at the DNA, RNA and protein level. Using computer tomography (CT) scans for selection of patients with emphysema only and airway disease only, we will obtain material from lung (leukocytes, bronchial cells) and blood (leukocytes), and will analyse elements of gene expression (SNP array, transcriptome).</p> <p>Data analysis will be done for E versus A (EvA) and versus a control cohort leading to identification of markers linked specifically to either E or A. These markers will be elements involved in a differential pathogenesis for the different disease processes in COPD.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>ERTEL Juergen</b>          Tel: +49-89-31873022          Fax: +49-89-31873866          Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



Title of project	<b>Integration of the system models of insulin signalling and of mitochondrial function and its application in the study of complex diseases (MITIN)</b>
Duration	36 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	2,960,000
North West partner	The University Of Liverpool
Number of partners in project	5
Objectives of the project	<p>A common trait to disorders such as type 2 diabetes or obesity is the development of insulin resistance. There is evidence indicating the existence of a bidirectional cross-talk between insulin signalling and mitochondrial function that may be relevant for the pathogenesis of those disorders. Based on this, MITIN main goal is to identify novel mitochondrial-dependent mechanisms responsible for the development of insulin resistance.</p> <p>This will be done by the use of technologies of Systems Biology and the generation of computer-based tools that will permit the study of complex biological systems that integrate different regulatory networks. For the global visualization and interpretation of the insulin signalling/mitochondria complex system we plan to develop a computational framework that will store and integrate all possible data for each of the subsystems, both currently available data and data generated within the project by transcriptomics and lipidomics analysis. This will allow the prediction of functional associations and interactions between both processes, which will be tested under specific hypothesis-driven studies in mammalian cells, mice and Drosophila.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>GROSU Adriana</b>          Tel: +34-934020450          Fax: +34-934037114          Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



Title of project	<b>The safety pharmacology of artemisinins when used to reverse pathophysiology of malaria in pregnancy (ARTEMIP)</b>
Duration	36 months
EU Funding Stream	Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Total value of the project (€)	1,950,000
North West partner	Liverpool School Of Tropical Medicine
Number of partners in project	5
Objectives of the project	<p>Artemisinin based antimalarial drug combinations are recommended for the treatment of <i>P.falciparum</i> malaria infections throughout all malarial endemic areas of the world and in all populations, including women of child bearing age. The studies planned in this collaborative project are central to assessing the potential hazard posed by these drugs to the developing human foetus and thereby making evidence based recommendations on the risk:benefit of these drugs.</p> <p>Although clinical experience to date indicates the artemisinins to be safe, the area of reproductive toxicology demands special consideration. Data from the Chinese literature and our own studies confirm that the artemisinins are embryotoxic and potentially teratogenic in animal species at drug doses within the human therapeutic range. Based on over ten years of investigating the pharmacology of these drugs we have developed a hypothesis which can explain these teratogenic effects. Our hypothesis is based on the generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) from cleavage of the artemisinin peroxide bridge and consequent embryofoetal damage to key biological macromolecules.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>WARD Stephen</b> Tel: +44-1517053286 Fax: +44-1517053371 Email: <a href="#">Contact</a></p>



Title of project	<b>HENRE 2 – Project 226008-CP-1-2005-1-UK-ERASMUS-TN</b>
Year Project began	2005
Duration	36 months
EU Funding Stream	ERASMUS/SOCRATES
Total value of the project (€)	1,252,612
North West Partner	St. Martins College/University Of Cumbria – Lead Organisation (Including Various UK And International Partners)
Number of partners in project	68 Partners (Not all active for the duration of the project)
Objectives of the project	<p>Promotion and establishment of a Thematic network of Radiographers across Europe.</p> <p>To develop, tune, advance and promote radiography educational programmes in order to increase the professional recognition and status of radiographers in Europe and to develop common educational standards thus facilitating free movement of labour across the European healthcare community. To enable radiographers to liaise about the changing role of radiography and within this context to develop, tune and improve standards of professional practice and education and to advance the body of knowledge of radiography throughout Europe.</p> <p><b>HENRE 2 Project Aims and Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To promote a European dimension of radiography education</li> <li>• To publish and disseminate materials and knowledge generated by the network (targeting educators, practitioners and researchers operating within or alongside the radiography profession)</li> <li>• To facilitate communication between educators and practitioners</li> <li>• To raise public awareness of radiation protection issues</li> <li>• To encourage the development of lifelong learning opportunities and of radiography research to advance the body of knowledge</li> <li>• To stimulate European standards in radiography education</li> </ul> <p>More specifically the organisation of 3 sub groups to act as working groups to identify specific objectives that will be addressed through various activities.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>David Mashiter</b> Marketing &amp; Management Information Administrator Enterprise &amp; External Relations Faculty of Health, Medical Sciences and Social Care University of Cumbria, Lancaster Campus, Bowerham Road Lancaster LA1 3JD Tel: 01524 38 46 56 Email: <a href="mailto:David.Mashiter@Cumbria.ac.uk">David.Mashiter@Cumbria.ac.uk</a></p>



Title of project	<b>European Network for the Development of Nursing Practice (TENN) Project Number. 102504-CP-1-UK-ERASMUS-TN</b>
Year Project began	2005
Duration	36 months
EU Funding Stream	ERASMUS/SOCRATES
Total value of the project (€)	211,649
North West Partner	St. Martins College/University of Cumbria
Number of partners in project	13 Partner Institutions
Objectives of the project	<p>The aim of the project was to develop a quality masters programme incorporating nine 10 credit modules which will help to fulfill the changing needs of the nursing profession across the European Union. The programme will be an MSc in Advanced Nursing Practice incorporating two pathways: Nurse Practitioner and Leadership.</p> <p><b>The objectives being:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To Ensure that the MSc addresses the needs of the local institution and country</li> <li>• To fulfill the requirements of advanced nursing practice</li> <li>• To develop a quality and currently relevant MSc that will encourage recruitment of students' world wide as in keeping with the Bologna Declaration</li> <li>• To help achieve all the criteria set out in the Bologna Agreement</li> </ul> <p>The target group will be experienced qualified nurse employed in health care settings across the European Union. The work will involve the development of the full MSc incorporating nine modules and will focus on three, four member working groups, each of which will have a group facilitator.</p> <p>The successful outcome of this work will be an MSc Advanced Nursing Practice (Nurse Practitioner) and an MSc Advanced Nursing Practice (Leadership). The two MSc awards will be available full and part time and will be validated to enable the full programme (expertise allowing) to be delivered at each institution. A sharing of modules and expertise across institutions is a major focus of the programme.</p>
North West contact for further information	<p><b>David Mashiter</b>          Marketing &amp; Management Information Administrator          Enterprise &amp; External Relations          Faculty of Health, Medical Sciences and Social Care          University of Cumbria, Lancaster Campus, Bowerham Road          Lancaster LA1 3JD          Tel: 01524 38 46 56          Email: <a href="mailto:David.Mashiter@Cumbria.ac.uk">David.Mashiter@Cumbria.ac.uk</a></p>

**North West Health Brussels Office**

**T:** +32 2 229 53 88 **F:** +32 2 229 53 83 **E:** [health@northwesthealth.eu](mailto:health@northwesthealth.eu) **Web:** [www.northwesthealth.eu](http://www.northwesthealth.eu)