

EUROPEAN JOINT PROGRAMME ON RARE DISEASES (EJP RD)

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Objectives of the EJP RD



Main objective:

Create a research and innovation pipeline "from bench to bedside" ensuring rapid translation of research results into clinical applications and uptake in healthcare for the benefit of patients

Mode of action:

Large programme that integrates existing infrastructures, networks, trainings, funding programmes and tools, expands them and develops new essential ones to offer harmonized (and centralized) RD research ecosystem that is easy to use for scientists and produces benefits for patients in the most efficient way

750
people
650 Scientifics
100 Admin

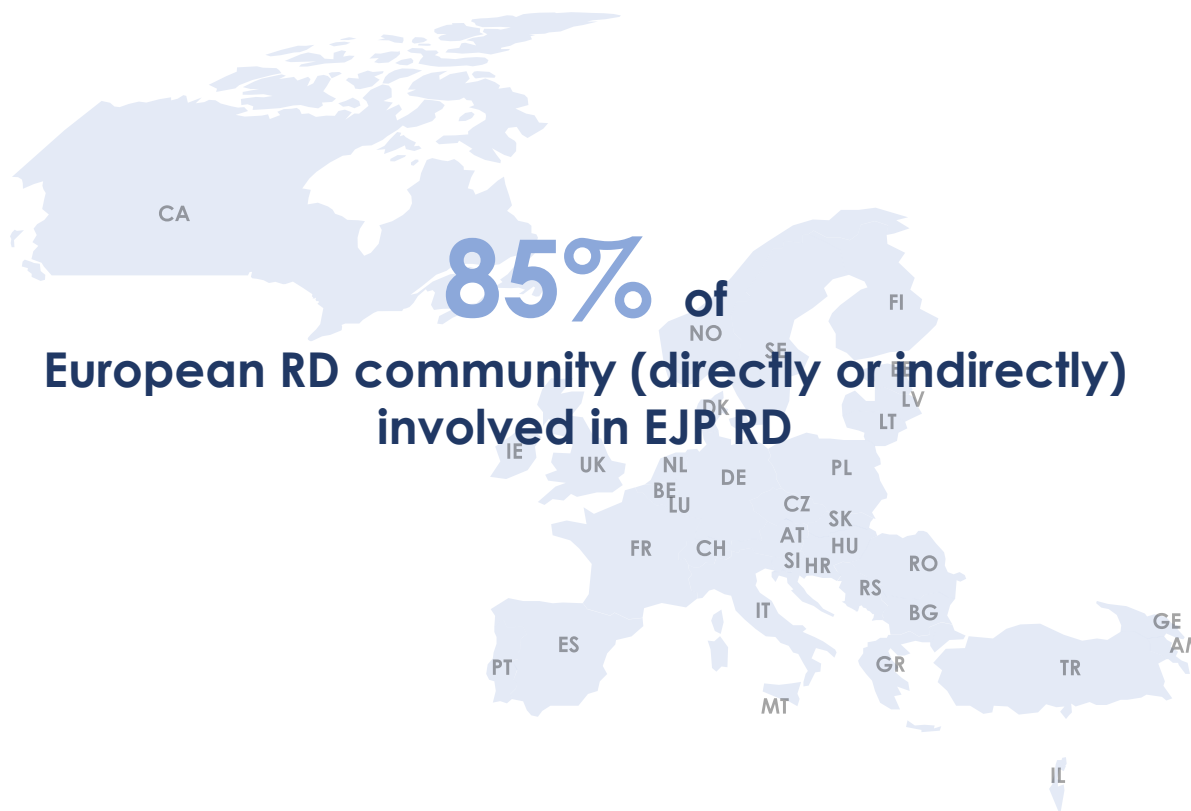
35 participating countries

26 EU MS, 7 associated (AM, CH, GE, IL, NO, RS, TK), UK and CA

101 M€
Budget

Union contribution: 55 M€ (70% reimbursement rate)

EJP RD in numbers



87
beneficiaries

9 hospitals
12 research institutes
31 research funding bodies/ministries
24 universities/hospital universities
5 EU infrastructures
5 charities/foundations
EURORDIS

+ 50 linked third parties
+100% associated networks



eatris



EJP RD STRUCTURE

Coordinated by



**COORDINATION
& TRANSVERSAL ACTIVITIES**

INTEGRATIVE RESEARCH STRATEGY

SUSTAINABILITY

ETHICAL & REGULATORY

COMMUNICATION

1

FUNDING

2

**COORDINATED
ACCESS TO
DATA &
SERVICES**

3

**CAPACITY
BUILDING &
EMPOWERMENT**

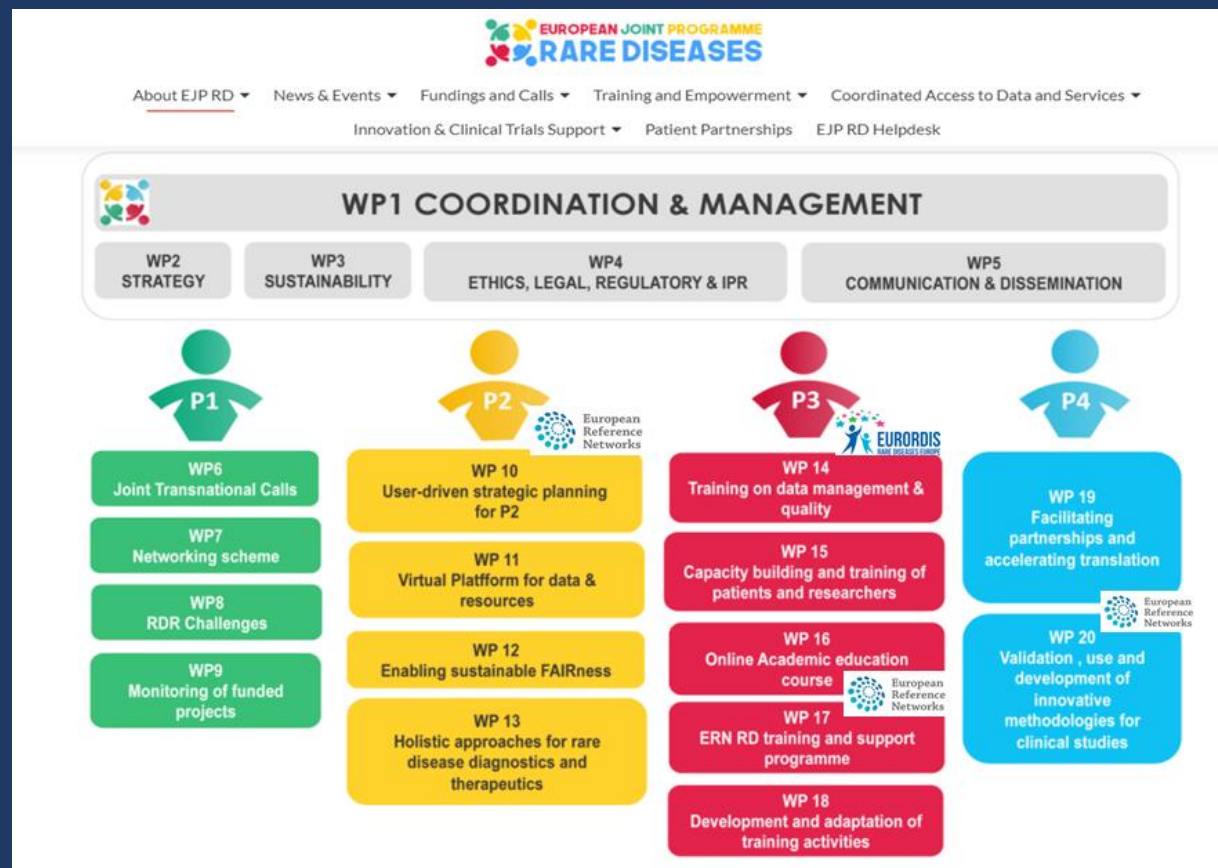
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**ACCELERATING
TRANSLATION
OF RESEARCH &
THERAPY
DEVELOPMENT**

EJP RD

what is there for RD stakeholders?

FUNDING, TRAINING & SUPPORT OFFICES



JOIN TRANSNATIONAL CALLS

MAIN GOAL: enable scientists and researchers in different countries to build an effective collaboration on a common interdisciplinary research project based on complementarities and sharing of expertise, with a clear future benefit for patients

MORE INFORMATION: <https://www.ejprarediseases.org/index.php/fundings-and-calls/>

Are you looking for:

*Gathering of experts & patients to share knowledge?
Expanding your network to include new stakeholders?
Support future consortium to apply to EC calls?*

Networking support scheme (continuous call)

Objective: encourage sharing of knowledge on rare diseases
to support health care professionals, researchers and patient advocacy
organizations with a networking grant to re-organize themselves into
transnational (clinical) research networks



Are you looking to:

Train your PhD student/young MD within your ERN network or within other ERN network?

Research Mobility Fellowship (2 calls/year):

Aim: financially support PhD students, medical doctors & post-docs working in ERN-member institutions to undertake short scientific visits (secondments) up to **6 months** fostering specialist research training outside their countries of residence and within one of the ERN host institutions.

Are you looking to:

Share transversal type of knowledge (going beyond your ERN) and have interesting training idea?

Research training network (2 calls per year)

Aim: identify the most suitable proposals for the organization of research training workshops of 2 days targeted to the ERNs needs. Selected research training workshops will have to train ERN researchers and clinicians in ERN relevant innovative training themes. Moreover, the workshops will be aiming to provide a cross-ERN added value.

Are you looking to:

Train your members or gain knowledge in rare diseases research related aspect?

Training & empowerment

- **7 face-to-face courses** in 5 countries (220 participants, 18 fellowships)
- **9 online courses** (270 participants)
- **500 stakeholders trained** so far increasing research potential of the multi- stakeholder EU RD research community



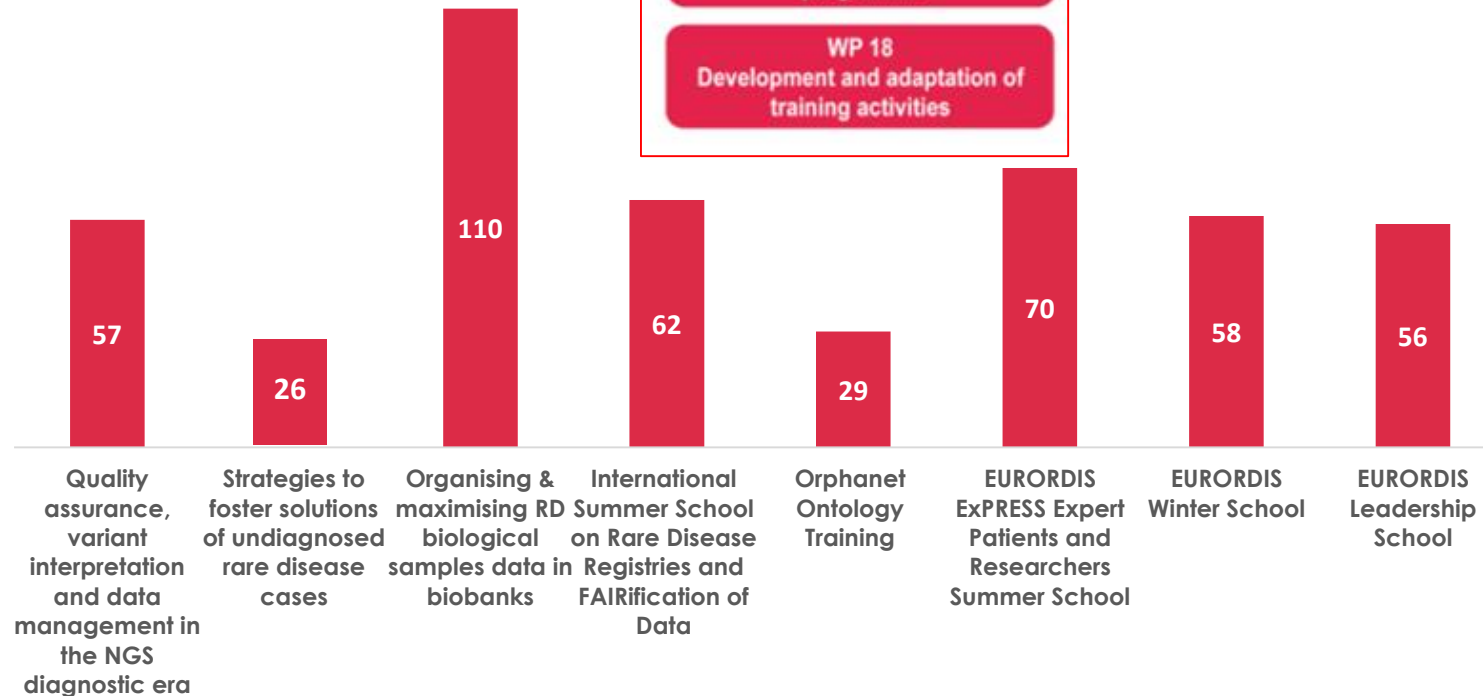
E-learning academic course on RD

Module 1: RD
Diagnosis

Module 2: RD
Innovative
personalized
therapies

Module 3: RD
translational
research

Module 4 & 5:
to be define d
in year 3



*You have project and/or preliminary results for e.g. new therapy/biomarker/device
& You are looking for :*

- evaluation of translational potential of your project*
- further regulatory support*
- advice on how to get interest of potential sponsor or derisk your project*

You have idea about possible multinational clinical study but for which e.g. there is no interest from industry? &

You are looking for (e.g):

- advice on how to advance with such project*
- advice on how to put in place clinical study with public sponsors*
- advice on overall management & regulatory issues of multinational clinical studies*

Clinical studies support office

- Specialised infrastructures: ECRIN & experts in statistical methodologies (WP20), partners with expertise in multinational CT/Studies
- CT execution planning: country selections, patient recruitment, cost evaluation, regulatory & ethics
- Facilitated access to national support & additional expertise (e.g. paediatric CTs, regulatory, ethics)



Clinical Trials Support Office requests

- RD investigators (Lafora Disease, drug repurposing)
- European Cystic Fibrosis Society
- SME (cardiovascular rare diseases)
- Methodologies (EPICARE)

Evaluate ERN's needs

ERN Annual Meetings

- ERN Cranio
- EpiCare



EJP RD support offices

Support for Accelerated translation of research results

- Accompany research projects
 - Mentoring from their conception and throughout their lifetime & facilitate next steps
 - Provide tools (based on use-cases) free of charge → innovation management toolbox
 - Open to EJP RD beneficiary institutions, E-Rare & EJP RD funded projects, ERN projects
- Innovation Management Toolbox (to be open in coming weeks)



helpdesk@ejprarediseases.org

Methodological & regulatory

- Launch of **3 demonstration projects** validating novel methodologies in small population CTs (proof required by regulators) with
- Launch of **innovative methodologies** for clinical studies in limited populations (below 1 in 50 000)
- Direct collaboration with regulators: EMA and EU Innovation Network (national competent authorities)



Ethics/Informed Consent

ERN Registry Informed Consent Form (ICF)

- High level expertise: *EJP RD Advisory regulatory & Ethics Board*
- Close collaboration with all ERNs + proof-of-concept developed based on initial EC ICF & real feedback from national/institutional ethics committees
- Improved ERN registry informed consent including “customised choices” to meet National and Site specific requirements as well as GDPR compliance
- Keep easy to read (time & language) by patients & carers (including minors)



Virtual Platform (VP)

Federated

Standardized

GDPR-compliant

Sustainable

Quality assessed



DATA, RESOURCES & TOOLS



Findable
Accessible
Interoperable
Reusable

EJP RD Virtual Platform

Counting Patients with
specific conditions



Explore & use (RD)
Catalogues to answer
questions



Make Consent
machine readable
for Automatic data Access



Use of multi-omics data for
diagnosis & identification
of drug targets



**EJP RD
Virtual
Platform**

HEALTHCARE +

European Reference Networks (ERN)

Support & connection of ERN registries (patient health data)

INFRASTRUCTURES & CATALOGUES

Induced improvement for exploitation by RD
community

NATIONAL ALIGNMENT

Referenced in PNMR3, FR funding opportunities for standard
alignment with Health Data Hub, cohorts, FR RD DBs

EU ALIGNMENT

Referenced in EC/IMI calls for projects

INTERNATIONAL

Collaboration with international stakeholders (CPATH) on joint
standards & methodologies

EJP RD – single entry point & solutions for all in rare diseases

RESEARCHERS



Funding

Research support services

Training at every stage

Access to resources & tools

Access to extensive network & expertise

CLINICIANS



Clinical studies support services

Support for registries

Access to resources & tools to accelerate diagnosis

Access to extensive network & expertise

Funding

PATIENTS



Access to RD specific expertise

Networking

Training at every stage

Access to resources & tools

Access to extensive network & expertise

Funding

POLICY
MAKERS &
FUNDERS



Joint funding & strategy

Optimisation of investment in research

Access to support for national RD community

Access to extensive network & expertise

Holistic impact evaluation

INTERNATIONAL
PARTNERS



Access to extensive RD network & expertise

Multiple collaboration opportunities

Possibility of alignment

Access to resources & tools

THANK YOU

www.ejprarediseases.org

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