

Networks' perspective: What networks can offer

FINPEDMED

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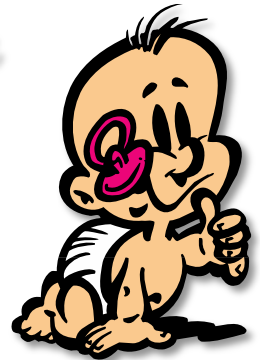
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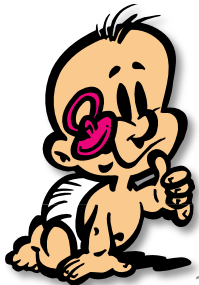
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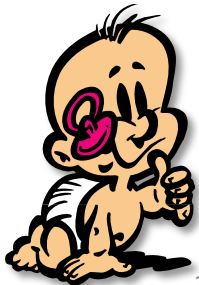
***FINPEDMED* - Finnish Investigators Network for Pediatric Medicines**

- Founded in 2007
- A joint collaboration of all 5 Finnish university hospital districts
- Recruitment base ca. 1 million children/adolesc.
- 86 members (investigators/researchers/experts)
 - > 90% PhD or more experienced scientifically
- Practically all paediatric and related specialities and subspecialties covered



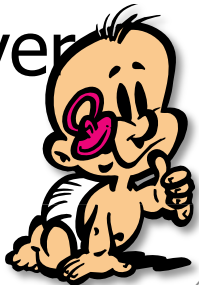
Strategic considerations

- Open for academic and sponsored proposals
- Light organisation – not a legal entity
- Aim is to facilitate the work of investigators
 - By simplifying and harmonising procedures
 - Network to help PI in preparing documents for approvals and a budget template
- Interest of scientifically qualified investigators and experts considered pivotal for success



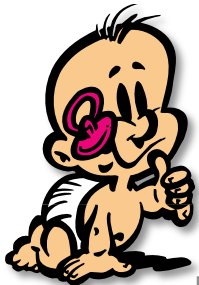
External services

- One-stop shop for study sites/investigators/experts
- Fast reply to enquiries – in 48 hours
 - Investigators commit to fast reply when joining
 - Investigators names not disclosed unless they express interest in the request
- Trial Information and Informed Consent document templates for clinical trials accepted as standard
- Graphic picture cards for use as an aid to deliver study information to young children



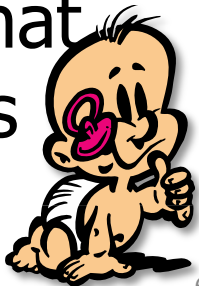
FINPEDMED – Experience so far

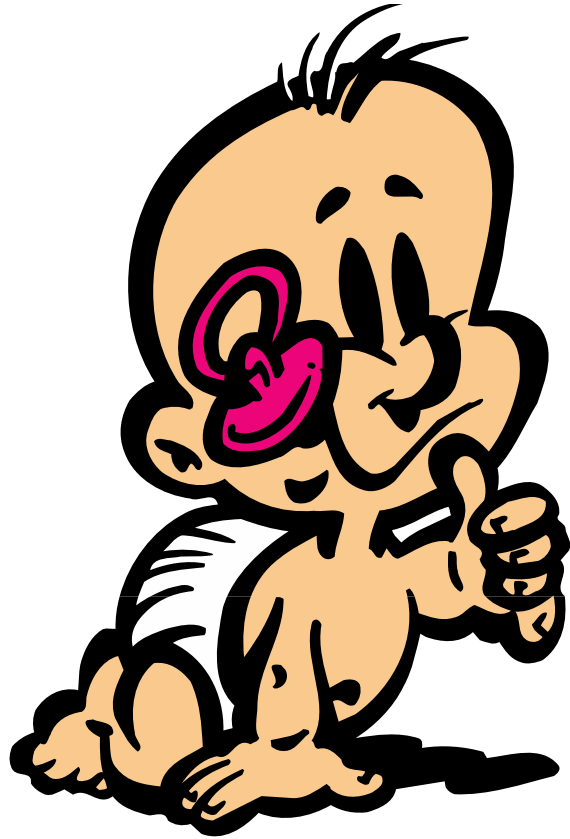
- 76 proposals for international multicentre clinical trials received (ca. 1-3/month, 15/year)
 - Investigator(s) identified for 30% of studies
 - No interest found for 30% of proposals
 - 62% of proposed studies cancelled by sponsor
 - 5 studies running or in preparation (1 academic)
 - 1 study finished
- 19 requests for expert fulfilled



Challenges

- To increase capacity for paediatric CTs the majority of members are researchers with access to patients, but who do not consider CTs as their primary scientific interest
- The proposals for sponsored trials received have been mostly of poor quality/planning and offered at take-it/leave-it stage
- Multiple enquiries on the same study
- Lack of increase in paediatric studies means that we may be losing interest of the investigators and external funding to run the network





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