

Kick-off meeting for Horizon 2020 project CARE - Common Action against HIV/TB/HCV across the Regions of Europe

Contributed by: REGION HOVEDSTADEN/Centre of Excellence for Health, Immunity and Infections (CHIP)

From 2019-01-23 to 2019-01-24, Italy

Common Action against HIV/TB/HCV across the Regions of Europe (CARE) launches with a kick-off meeting on 23-24 January in Rome.

The project runs for 2 years and brings together 12 partners from 10 countries that are led by EuResist Network (Italy). Centre of Excellence for Health, Immunity and Infections (CHIP, Denmark) is responsible for scientific coordination of the project. CARE operates under a specific Horizon 2020 call aiming to foster research between the EU and the Russian Federation.



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The CARE project expands on established European and Russian networks and will investigate the fast spread of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis, HIV and hepatitis C. The Common Action aims to analyse genetically determined factors that affect the progression of the diseases and implement a research infrastructure to share technology, data and knowledge beyond the funding frame.

This will be ensured through several specific objectives:

- Discover novel biomarkers of successful treatment of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis.
- Explore the genetic mechanism of predisposition to extrapulmonary tuberculosis.
- Develop a decision-making support tool for the genotypic prediction of tuberculosis drug resistance.
- Define the epidemiology of drug-resistant HIV to support introduction of the newest class of antiretroviral therapy (INSTIs).
- Determine genomic variants influencing predisposition to the development of AIDS, clinical events and adverse reactions to drugs.
- Derive best practice recommendations for the direct acting antivirals (DAA) hepatitis C treatment.

Furthermore, the CARE research results will be used to develop and distribute the highest level of expertise and competence throughout the WHO European region and facilitate the containment of the epidemics. To implement the CARE consortium vision, partners will ensure the development and realisation of evidence-based recommendations and intervention plans, establish communication with relevant stakeholders, and support dissemination and training activities.

The Common Action CARE consists of 7 individual Work Packages (WP) addressing the specified goals:

Work Package 1: Management ethics and quality assurance (Lead: The EURESIST NETWORK GEIE, Italy and FSBI Gamaleya, Russia)

WP2: Novel Diagnostic Approaches in TB and MDR-TB and Biomarkers of Treatment Response (Lead: IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY AND MEDICINE, United Kingdom)

WP3: Genotypic prediction of tuberculosis drug resistance and implementation of effective MDR-TB management (Lead: Forschungszentrum Borstel, Germany)

WP4: HIV molecular epidemiology and new treatment strategies in Russia and eastern Europe (Lead: KAROLINSKA INSTITUTET, Sweden)

WP5: How host genomic variation affects clinical outcomes in people with HIV (Lead: CHIP, Denmark)

WP6: Prioritisation of DAA treatment in HCV infected individuals (Lead: CHIP, Denmark)

WP7: Dissemination communication and exploitation (Lead: CHIP, Denmark)

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