Newsletter

May 2015

Article - Final Stages of the EURECA Project

Rosa Gleave & Prof Norbert Graf – ecancer, Bristol, UK / Saarland University, Homburg, Germany

Article - The European Institute for Innovation Through Health Data

Dr Pascal Coorevits – Ghent University, Belgium

Partner profile

Breast International Group (BIG)

eureca

Enabling information re-Use by linking clinical REsearch and CAre

Final Stages of the EURECA Project

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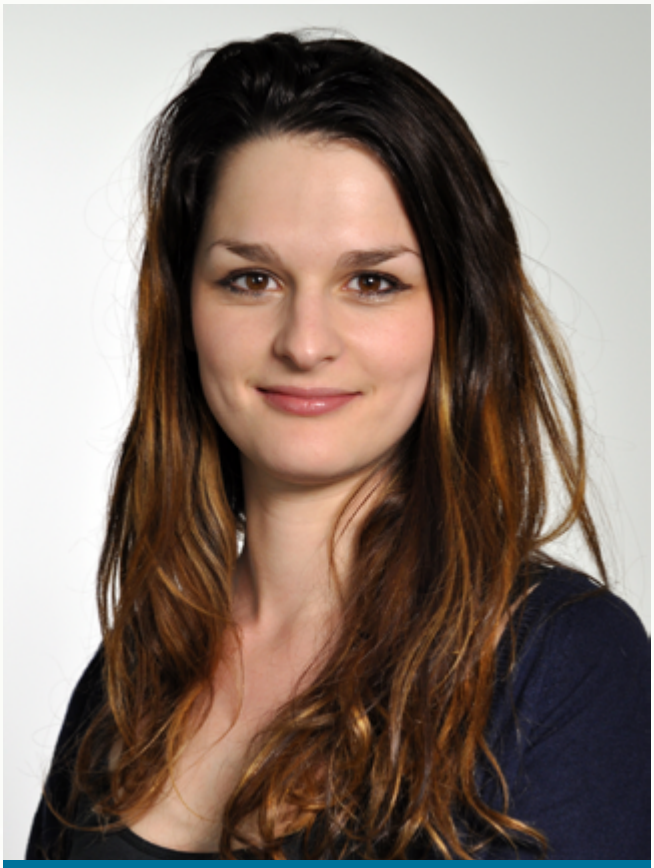


Rosa Gleave

Prof Norbert Graf

We are all now looking at the final few months of the EURECA project. Started in January 2012, the 42 months are nearly up, and we are starting to examine and assess what we have achieved and round off the edges of our work.

The project, like many others, sought an extension on the basis that post-project value heavily depends on proper clinical validation. It was hoped that a further 6 months would be awarded, however this was not to be. The project will therefore finish as planned at the end of July 2015.

This means there is much to be done in the remaining time. Tools are being validated, and a workshop is being planned to demonstrate the final tools to experts within the healthcare industry.

Final Stages of the EURECA Project

Rosa Gleave & Prof Norbert Graf – ecancer, Bristol, UK / Saarland University

The following table shows all scenarios that will be evaluated in the upcoming weeks of the project.

Evaluator	Scenario
University of Saarland	Personal Medical Information Recommender Data mining of consultation Prediction of SAEs/SUSARs Automatic reporting of SAEs/SUSARs Microbiology SAE
University of Oxford	Contextualized overview Patient Diary & Long-term follow-up Hypothesis generation Outcome prediction Diagnostic classifier
Institute Jules Bordet	Reporting episodes of febrile neutropenia Cancer registry and tumour bank reporting
MAASTRO clinic	Update of guidelines Trial recruitment
German Breast Group	Protocol feasibility

There are a total of 15 different scenarios for which tools have been developed during the project period. For all of these scenarios the legal and ethical issues have been solved and the infrastructure and all data are available to run the tools.

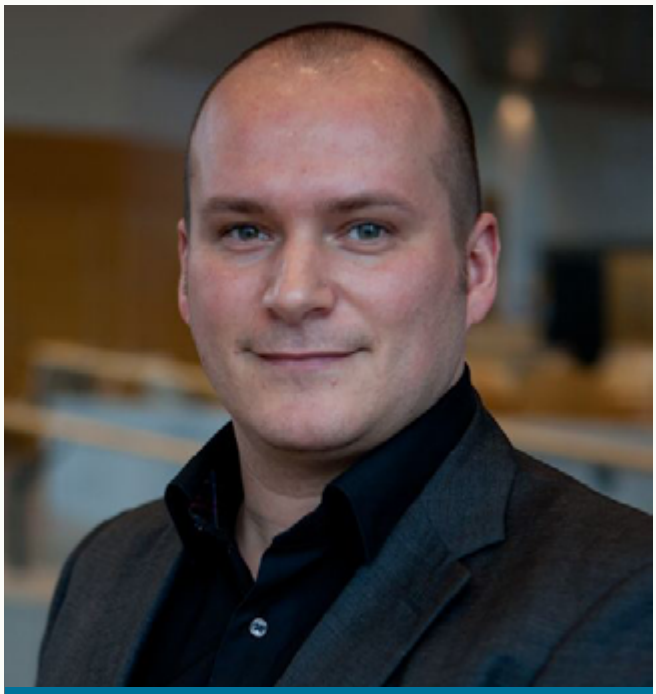
Of utmost importance is the fact that the evaluation will be done by real end-users. To get reliable results of the evaluation, concrete and reproducible evaluation sheets are being developed based on current knowledge.

In terms of maintenance and sustainability, it has already been decided that the tool for the microbiology scenario will be used at the University Hospital of Saarland at all wards beyond the end of the EURECA project after a test phase, followed by further optimization at the paediatric oncology ward.

The same will be true for the automatic reporting of Severe Adverse Events (SAEs) and Suspected Unexpected Serious Adverse Events (SUSARS) for clinical trials running at the Department of Paediatric Oncology of the University of Saarland. At the end of the there will be plans for sustainability and maintenance available for all tools.

The European Institute for Innovation Through Health Data

Dr Pascal Coorevits – Ghent University, Belgium



Dr Pascal Coorevits

Based on the experiences of the Convergence initiatives (see the last issue of the EURECA newsletter!) and as a major outcome of the **EHR4CR project**, a new not-for-profit organization 'The European Institute For Innovation Through Health Data' has been registered in Belgium with as mission "to enable, coordinate, and accelerate the efficient development and deployment of interoperable and seamless eHealth solutions and research strategies, towards achieving best practices and sustainable integrated person-centred health care, to optimise health and wellness in Europe, and beyond".

One of the core functions will be facilitating, deriving and using intelligence of health data (via electronic health records, patient health records, mobile health data, etc…).

The Institute aims at combining and sustaining results of many European research projects (e.g. **EHR4CR**, **SemanticHealthNet**, **EMIF**, **Integrate**, **EURECA**, **TRANSFoRm**, **SALUS**, **EXPAND**, **Trillium Bridge**, eStandards, VALUeHEALTH, etc…). It has a business model and business plan and will be financed by membership fees and by providing services such as certification and governance through specifically-funded projects and initiatives.

The scope and challenge areas of the Institute have been divided into a set of strategic roles and activities it will undertake and into a Centre of Excellence for the Research Use of Health Data and a Centre of Excellence for Semantic Interoperability.

The European Institute for Innovation Through Health Data

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The core functions will be to develop guidelines and promoting best practices, promote the convergence of health informatics standards, participating in funded research accelerating the use of health data, facilitating knowledge discovery from health data, collating success strategies for scaling up eHealth innovations and disseminating evidence of benefit, and demonstrating value, from the collection and use of high quality, interoperable, health data. The objectives of the two Centres of Excellence are outlined below.

Centre of Excellence for the Research Use of Health Data

- Sustaining a Network of Excellence for research sponsors and research units
- Maintaining open specifications for clinical research platforms and service interfaces
- Certifying and auditing health research ICT products and service providers, starting with the EHR4CR platform (in partnership with EuroRec)
- Accrediting staff using health data for research (in partnership with ECRIN, UKCHIP)

Centre of Excellence for Semantic Interoperability

- Fostering the design and validation of assets by clinicians
- Quality labelling and registering interoperability assets
- Designing quality processes for clinical information models
- Promoting interoperability standards implementation and adoption
- Leading an Alliance of standards developers, implementers, purchasers and users
- Providing tools to support semantic harmonisation

The key activities in 2015 for the Institute will be to:

- Establish and operate its Executive and Advisory Boards
- Identify founder members of the Institute from multiple stakeholders
- Grow revenues from membership, sponsorship, certification, research grants and services
- Develop multimedia resources and promote the activities of the Institute and its Centres of Excellence
- Hold an inaugural conference in Q4 of 2015

More information

For more information about the European Institute For Innovation Through Health Data, please visit *http://www.ehr4cr.eu/views/solutions/institute.cfm* or join us during the eHealth week in Riga (11-13 May 2015) at the EuroRec session "Trusted Reuse of Health Data for Research – Showcasing European Project Results" (12 May 2015 16:30 – 18:30, *http://www.eurorec.org/news_events/index.cfm?newsID=302*).

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Partner profile

Breast International Group (BIG)

The Breast International Group (BIG) takes care of coordinating the Knowledge Management (WP10) of the EURECA project.

BIG is a non-profit organisation for academic breast cancer research groups from around the world, with its headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.

BIG facilitates breast cancer research at international level by stimulating cooperation between its members and other academic networks, and collaborating with, but working independently from, the pharmaceutical industry. Large-scale cooperation is crucial to make significant advances in breast cancer research, reduce wasteful duplication of effort, and optimally serve those affected by the disease.

Founded by leading European opinion leaders in 1996, BIG now constitutes a network of 55 groups based in Europe, Canada, Latin America, Asia and Australasia. These research entities are tied to several thousand specialised hospitals and research centres worldwide. BIG also works closely with the US National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the North American Breast Cancer Group (NABCG), so that together they act as a strong integrating force in the breast cancer research arena.

International collaboration makes it possible to conduct studies that would not be possible for a single research group or network to carry out on its own, especially as treatments become increasingly targeted. Combining efforts makes it possible to quickly enrol large numbers of patients, or to share data and knowledge and efficiently answer important scientific questions.

To get to know the BIG network and its activities better, visit:

www.bigagainstbreastcancer.org