

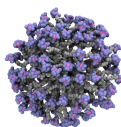
COST Action CA17140
Cancer Nanomedicine – from the bench to the bedside
4th CA17140 Management Committee Online Meeting

January 31st, 2022, 9:30 am – 1:00 pm

Minutes

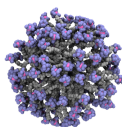
MC meeting participants:

1. Lucia Forzi – COST CA17140 Science Officer
2. Sabrina Pricl – Action Chair
3. Nazende Günday Türeli – Action Vice-Chair, MC member (DE)
4. Maria Francesca Ottaviani – Grant Awarding Coordinator, MC Member (IT)
5. Rana Sanyal – WG1 Leader, MC member (TR)
6. Ivana Vinković Vrček – WG2 Leader, MC member (HR)
7. Carlo Catapano – WG3 Leader, MC member (CH)
8. Maria Eugenia Riveiro – WG4 Leader, Science Communication Coordinator, MC member (FR)
9. Tomas Strasak – WG1 Vice Leader (CZ)
10. Evgeny Apartsin – WG2 Vice Leader (RU)
11. Ulf D. Kahlert – WG3 Vice Leader (DE)
12. Enrico Catalano – WG4 Vice Leader (IT)
13. Barbara Klajnert-Maculewicz – Grant Holder Scientific Representative, MC member (PL)
14. Joanna Korczynska – Grant Holder Manager (PL)
15. Albana Ndreu Halili - MC member (AL)
16. Andreas Falk – MC member (AT)
17. Ruth Prassl – MC member (AT)
18. Ivo Grabchev – MC member (BG)
19. Ivaylo Dimitrov – MC member (BG)
20. Christakis Damianou – MC member (CY)
21. Dominika Wrobel – MC member (CZ)
22. Jørn B. Christensen – MC member (DK)
23. Cecile Arbez-Gindre – MC member (EL)
24. Eleni Efthimiadou – MC member (EL)
25. Valentín Cena – MC member (ES)
26. Oliviero Gobbo – MC member (IE)
27. David Duday – MC member (LU)
28. Arturs Abols – MC member (LV)
29. Beti Andonovik – MC member (MK)
30. Yrr Mørch – MC member (NO)
31. Joanna Wietrzyk – MC member (PL)
32. Helena Tomás – MC member (PT)
33. Carla Cruz – MC member (PT)
34. Sanda Boca-Farcau – MC member (RO)
35. Marin Gheorghe – MC member (RO)
36. Susana Cristobal – MC member (SE)
37. Monika Sramkova – MC member (SK)



- 38. Katarína Kozics – MC member (SK)
- 39. Sena Nomak – MC member (TR)
- 40. David K. Smith – MC member (UK)

1. The Action Chair, Prof. Sabrina Pricl, welcomed all participants and requested participant quorum verification.
2. The Grant Holder Manager, Mrs. Joanna Korczynska, verified required quorum (presence of 2/3 of the represented COST Countries) and confirmed presence over 2/3.
3. The Action Chair, Prof. Sabrina Pricl, requested the assembly to:
 - a. adopt the Meeting Agenda. The MC unanimous response was: adopted.
 - b. approve the 3rd MC meeting minutes. The MC unanimous response was: adopted.
 - c. report/discuss any matters arising from last meeting. The MC unanimous response was: nothing to report/discuss.
4. Update from the CA17140 Science Officer. The COST Science Officer, Dr. Lucia Forzi, illustrated some of the most salient, new COST Annotated rules, enforced by November 1st, 2021 in line with the new Horizon Europe program. She highlighted the new procedures for participation of individuals to COST Actions, the re-definition of COST leadership positions, and the main changes concerning the MC composition (with specific focus on the reformulation of the role of MC substitute and the procedure for new MC member approval). She also brought to MC attention the new figure Young Researcher/Innovator to replace former ECI and the new composition of ITCs (LU no longer be part of ITC/EL now part of ITC, inclusion of Outermost Regions within ITCs). She concluded her contribution by recalling main COST eligibility for funding rules and criteria.
5. Update from the CA17140 Chair. The Action Chair, Prof. Sabrina Pricl, gave a brief update about the state of the Action and informed about the new CA17140 Leadership composition following the resignation of Prof. Barbara Klajnert-Maculewicz as former Action Chair. She also explained the motivation beyond the attribution of each new leadership position, including the final choice of the WG Vice Leaders, and informed about a vacant position of Action MC membership for Italy.
6. Update from the Grant Awarding Coordinator (formerly STSM Coordinator): review of completed reports and new applications. Prof. Maria Francesca Ottaviani reported on the overall results from the past STSMs (Calls 1-5) based on the elaboration of the STSM questionnaire results, presented the 6th STSM call and the ITC Conference Grant call, and informed about the two upcoming STSM conferences.
7. Update from the Grant Holder Manager: Action Budget Status. Mrs. Joanna Korczynska illustrated in detail the previous GBP3 budget, reporting a 34% underspending substantially due to the negative impact of COVID-19 on the mobility and networking activity. She also gave a detailed view of the current GP4 budget plan.
8. The Action Chair, Prof. Sabrina Pricl, informed the MC assembly about the necessity of voting to formally appoint Dr. Maria Eugenia Riveiro as the new Science Communicator Coordinator, following the resignation of Prof. Sabrina Pricl from this role. She then issued the voting process by tacit consent. The MC unanimous response was: approved.
9. Update from the Science Communication Coordinator. Dr. Maria Eugenia Riveiro illustrated the new website/social media initiatives, reminded the MC about the opportunity to check these media regularly and recalled the importance to report the formal COST acknowledgment in all COST publications and the adoption of the e COST guidelines on visual identity in acknowledging COST as a funding source.
10. Implementation of COST policies. The Action Chair, Prof. Sabrina Pricl, recalled the COST's main elements for inclusiveness and for excellence. Concerning the former, the Action Chair presented the most recent data from which the achievement of all three key goals (gender balance, career stage: involving young researchers, and geographical spread) by the Action is evident. On the excellence perspective (identifying excellence in science and technology across Europe, increasing research communities' access to funding and infrastructures, and triggering structural changes in Members' national research systems) the Action



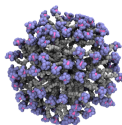
Chair was not in the position to show updated information. To the purpose, the Action Chair recalled that only a minority of MC members (and Action members as well) provided the relevant information by compiling the *ad hoc* prepared Action questionnaire, and required the MC members to comply with this Action critical activity as soon as possible.

11. Follow-up of MoU objectives: progress report from working groups

- a. Update from WG1 – The WG1 Leader, Dr. Rana Sanyal (TR), along with the WG1 Vice-leader, Dr. Tomas Strasak (CZ), briefly updated about the present composition of WG1, scopes, goals and deliverables deployed by this WG, and the past, current and future WG1 activities.
- b. Update from WG2 – The WG2 Vice Leader, Dr. Evgeny Apartsin (RU), along with the WG2 Leader, Dr. Ivana Vinković Vrček (HR), summarized WG2's scientific goals and deployed deliverables, and briefly reported on the successful WG2 Online Conference "Characterisation of nanomaterials towards safe and efficient nanodrugs". He also informed about the ongoing procedure to prepare an Action Book focused on WG2 scopes and goals, entitled "Handbook for physicochemical characterisation of nanopharmaceuticals; Subtitle: Fundamentals, protocols, tips and tricks for facilitating quality, efficacy and safety evaluation of nano-enabled medical products". The book will be published by the Royal Society of Chemistry in the Nanoscience & Nanotechnology Series (edited by Prof Nguyễn T K Thanh, University College London, UK, a CA17140 Action member). Dr. Apartsin also recalled that a CA17140 YouTube channel is also active, featuring recorded presentations and other materials from different Action events (available at the link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoj8Co96qGHBmAceQqkRDfg/videos?view=0&sort=da>)
- c. Update from WG3 – The WG3 Leader, Dr. Carlo Catapano (CH) presented WG3 goals and the state of the art of the relevant deliverables, and informed about the upcoming WG3 Meeting to be held in Bellinzona (CH) on March 3-4, 2022. The WG3 Vice-Leader, Prof. Ulf Kahlert (DE) also briefly presented the scopes and goals of another WG3 initiative, the WG3 Workshop "Advancing cancer nanomedicine to the clinics: hypes, hopes and hurdles" to be hosted in Magdeburg on June 16-17, 2022.
- d. Update from WG4 – The WG4 Leader, Dr Maria Eugenia Riveiro (FR), along with the WG4 Vice-Leader, Dr. Enrico Catalano (IT), briefly recalled WG4's aims and goals, informed about successful WG4 activities including two virtual workshops "Meet our industrial partners" (a third being foreseen in March 2022) and the Webinar "FDA Guidance: Drug Products Containing Nanomaterials", and presented the aims and goals of the upcoming WG4 meeting, to be co-organized with the WG1 Leader Dr. Rana Sanyal and to be hosted in Istanbul, on June 7-8, 2022.

12. Scientific planning.

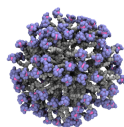
- a. Scientific strategy (MoU objectives, GP Goals, WG tasks and deliverables). The Action Chair, Prof. Sabrina Pricl, recalled the Action Primary and Secondary Objectives, the 4th GP goals, and the 4th GP Deliverables and milestones. She also gave full details (including budget, expected number of participants, aims and scopes and expected outputs) of the upcoming WG3 Meeting and WG3 Workshop (see point 11c) and WG4 Meeting (see point 11d).
- b. Action budget planning (including anticipated locations and dates of future activities). The Action Chair, Prof. Sabrina Pricl, informed the MC that WBP4 is the last budget period of the Action. Accordingly, no further budget planning was required.
- c. Long term planning. The Action Chair, Prof. Sabrina Pricl, gave a detailed information of all activities foreseen during the 4th Action GP. These include both budgeted activities and activity not requiring budget support. Among the former group, besides the already discussed WG3 and WG4 events, the Action Chair gave full details (including strategy beyond each event, budget, expected number of participants, aims and goals, expected outputs) about the STSM Conference 1 and 2 (to be held online on March 16 and September 22, 2022, respectively), the 5th MC Meeting (to be held online on July 11, 2022), the CA17140 Final Conference (to be hosted by the University of Trieste (IT) Home of the Action Chair, and held in a hybrid form on July 11-12, 2022), and the 2nd Training School (a three day event, September 1-3, 2022, to be held In Warsaw (PL)). Within the second



group of activities, the Action Chair, Prof. Sabrina Pricl presented in details and discussed in details the strategy and the aims and scope of a series of foreseen activities to be held online, which include the Science and the Action bi-weekly seminar series, the WG info days and other online webinars dedicated to, *e.g.*, mentoring academic and industrial career of Young researchers/Innovators and to involve major European Entities and Governing bodies in the Action field. Also, the Action Chair highlighted the urgency of creating an Action critical mass to form Consortia within the Action to apply for international grants, comprising Horizon Europe, ERC Synergy grants, ERC individual grants, EuroNanoMed calls, and other International and National funding agencies. Finally, the Action Chair informed the MC about the possibility to apply for a 6-month Action extension, giving full details, and requesting an opinion from the MC members. The majority of the participants expressed a favorable opinion; accordingly, the Action Chair informed the MC that the MC voting required for applying for such extension would be launched immediately after the MC meeting closure.

- d. Dissemination planning (publications and outreach activity). The Action Chair, Prof. Sabrina Pricl, informed the MC that general public awareness and public engagement by the Action should be increased. To the purpose, she presented a number of foreseen activities, including the preparation of press releases/videos with Action results, projects and interviews to be disseminated to different countries press and media agencies.

13. AOB. There was no AOB to be discussed.
14. Location and date of the next meeting. The Action Chair, Prof. Sabrina Pricl, recalled that the 5th CA17140 MC meeting will be held online on July 11, from 9:30 to 1:00 pm.
15. Summary of MC decisions. The Action Chair, Prof. Sabrina Pricl, briefly summarized all MC decisions taken during the current 4th MC Meeting. The MC decisions taken by e-voting during the time frame between the 3rd MC meeting (online, October 8th, 2020) and current MC meeting are summarized in this document's Appendix.
16. The Action Chair, Prof. Sabrina Pricl, thanked all participants and declared the MC meeting closed at 1 pm.



Appendix

Summary of the MC decisions taken by e-voting during the time frame between the 3rd MC meeting (online, October 8th, 2020) and current MC meeting

Title	Question	Start / End Date	Result
Budget transfer	Budget transfer of 500 EUR from ITC conference grants to OERSA Other Expenses Related to Scientific Activities available for online tools	16/12/2020 23/12/2020	approved
Budget transfer	Budget transfer of 1100 EUR from ITC conference grants to OERSA Other Expenses Related to Scientific Activities available for online tools	19/02/2021 26/02/2021	approved
Virtual Networking Tools – new instrument implementation	An introduction of VNT grants into the Action activities. One Virtual Networking Support Grant of 4000 EUR and six Virtual Mobility Grants: each of 1500 EUR. In this respect budget allocation of 13000 EUR from unspent amounts within categories Meetings	24/05/2021 31/05/2021	approved
Virtual Networking Tools – Core Group management mandate	Mandate to a Core Group to manage VNT grants: call launch, set evaluation criteria and perform evaluation	25/05/2021 01/06/2021	approved
WG2 Conference	Organisation of a WG2 on-line conference “Characterisation of nanomaterials towards safe and efficient nanodrugs” to be held online on June 22-23, 2021 with an allocated budget of 1000 Euro for Local Organiser Support	07/06/2021 14/06/2021	approved
WG4 Industrial partners workshops	Organisation of an Industrial partners Workshops to be held online on September 23 and 30, 2021 with an allocated budget of 500 Euro for Local Organiser Support	20/08/2021 27/08/2021	approved
Budget transfer	Budget transfer of 20 000 Euro from ITC Grants to STSMs	02/09/2021 09/09/2021	approved
Appointment of the Grant Awarding Coordinator and the Grant Evaluation Committee	Nomination of the above described persons to hold positions of the Grant Awarding Coordinator and the Grant Evaluation Committee	10/11/2021 17/11/2021	approved
MC mandate to the Grant Awarding Coordinator and Grant Evaluation Committee to perform tasks	Mandate to the Grant Awarding Coordinator and the Grant Evaluation Committee to perform assigned tasks on behalf of the MC	10/11/2021 17/11/2021	approved
E-vote for the new Chair	Do you approve the nomination of Prof. Sabrina Pricl as a Chair of the Action?	14/12/2021 21/12/2021	Approved
E-vote for the new Vice-Chair	Do you approve the nomination of Dr. Nazende Gunday-Tureli as a Vice-Chair of the Action?	14/12/2021 21/12/2021	approved
Participation of a new WG member	Do you vote for accepting the membership of Prof. Barbara KLAJNERT-MACULEWICZ as the WG3 Member of the COST Action CA17140?	28/12/2021 04/01/2022	approved
Participation of a new WG member	Do you vote for accepting the membership of Isola GAETANO as the WG4 Member of the COST Action CA17140?	28/12/2021 04/01/2022	approved