

Call: 8th Call - JPIAMR-VRI Network Call 2018

Title: VeRI BEAM

Acronym: VeRI BEAM

Network composition

Type: C – coordinator P - participant	Name	Institute	Country
C	Florence Sejourne	BEAM Alliance	France
P	Remko van Leeuwen	Madam Therapeutics BV	Netherlands
P	Eran Eden	MeMed Diagnostics Ltd.	Israel
P	Bo Öberg	Ultupharma AB	Sweden
P	Heather Fairhead	Phico Therapeutics Ltd	United Kingdom
P	David Mantus	Arsanis Biosciences GmbH	Austria
P	Deborah O'Neil	Novabiotics Ltd	United Kingdom
P	Bertrand Ducrey	Debiopharm International	Switzerland
P	Stéphane Huguet	Mutabilis SAS	France
P	Rasmus Toft-Kehler	AntibioTx ApS	Denmark
P	Mike Westby	Centauri Therapeutics Ltd	United Kingdom
P	Guy-Charles Fanneau de La Horie	Pherecydes Pharma	France
P	Martti Vaara	Northern Antibiotics Ltd	Finland
P	Marc Gitzinger	BioVersys AG	Switzerland
P	Marc Lemonnier	Antabio SAS	France
P	Holger Zimmermann	AiCuris Anti-infective Cures GmbH	Germany
P	Emmanuel Petiot	Deinobiotics	France
P	Helmut Kessmann	Polyphor Ltd	Switzerland
P	Annette Säfholm	Gedea Biotech AB	Sweden
P	Juan José Infante Viñolo	Vaxdyn SL	Spain
P	Egill Måsson	Akthelia	Iceland
P	Alessandro Pini	Setlance srl	Italy
P	Fredrik Almqvist	QureTech Bio AB	Sweden
P	Mark Jones	Basilea Pharmaceutica International Ltd.	Switzerland
P	Bruno Santos	Immunethep SA	Portugal
P	Nicolas Tesse	Septeos SAS	France

Chosen focal area

- Develop a Partnerships Strategy to ensure key stakeholders, including industry and policy makers, and other networks are engaged and coordinate the alignment of other funded Networks

Network summary

All recent reports establishing a roadmap to tackle the global, worldwide antimicrobial resistance (AMR) problem highlight the need to enlarge the current armamentarium beyond the sole “full antibiotic” model. Many efforts are being devoted to fulfil these needs both by academia and industry, as exemplified by the BEAM Alliance member portfolio (https://beam-alliance.eu/ba_pipeline). These new options include improved time-to-cure, anti-virulence, involvement of immune system, impact on flora, infection prevention, etc. both for animal and human medicine. However, while there is a clear path to Health Technology Assessment on antibiotic candidates (thanks to the EUCAST clinical breakpoint guidelines) no such established methodology is available for alternative antimicrobial treatments. Thus, any new treatment option faces the problem of lacking differentiation criteria to allow assessments of their products that do not have the possibility to be assessed by the classical MIC – PK/PD method. The clear definition of such criteria could benefit to the whole AMR research community. This uncertainty turns any such drug development into an undefined and risky market access condition. Consequently, private investors are reluctant to engage and to play a supporting role to pull-out promising candidates and bring them to the market. Most of the time, private companies learn or even co-build these requirements with (inter)national stakeholders, but this knowledge is rarely shared with e.g. academic labs or funding agencies, although it is of tremendous importance to anticipate pitfalls and avoid misuse of public funding.

The purpose of the VeRI BEAM Network is to implement a pilot action aiming at defining i) the above mentioned differentiation criteria and ii) the proper way to share the gained knowledge among AMR community. The pilot action will be used to validate a more general and long-term communication flow within the future JPIAMR-VRI between academic labs, and industrial and institutional actors in a non-competitive manner with a focus on innovative product development. Such a workflow will be helpful in anticipating R&D pitfalls and avoiding misuse of public funding.

For that purpose, the Network aims at:

- Mapping the information needs both in terms of content and format expressed by academic and institutional actors;
- Proposing an information workflow model;
- Developing the differentiation criteria use case to challenge the foreseen model.

The proposed communication workflow model will ensure building capacity and strengthening capability of JPIAMR-VRI members through knowledge exchange mainly on the non-scientific side, but including business skills such as regulatory frameworks, manufacturing policies, marketing, technology or policy development. This can be part of a more general Training Plan to be implemented at the whole JPIAMR-VRI level. Finally yet importantly, the work focusing on the definition of new differentiation criteria is fully aligned with the goal of producing scientific evidence for developing policy and guidelines.