



An in silico-based approach to improve the efficacy and precision of drug
REPOsing TRIALS for a mechanism-based patient cohort with predominant
cerebro-cardiovascular phenotypes

D4.2 Communication and dissemination plan

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Abbreviations

UM	Universiteit Maastricht
TUM	Technische Universität München
UNEW	University of Newcastle upon Tyne
UKE	Universitaetsklinikum Essen
MHH	Medizinische Hochschule Hannover
UMCU	Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht
BIOCRATES	Biocrates Life Sciences AG
SomaLogic	Somallogic Limited
HMPC	Mucke Hermann
concentris	concentris Research Management GmbH

Table of Contents

1. Introduction.....	3
2. Deliverable report.....	3
2.1. Dissemination objectives.....	3
2.2. Key messages of REPO-TRIAL	4
2.3. Target audiences	4
2.4. Channels of communication.....	5
2.5. Valorisation & IPR.....	6
2.6. Workpackage 4 and the monitoring process	7
2.7. Principle of authorship	7
2.8. Pre-submission review and approval procedure for REPO-TRIAL dissemination	8
2.9. Post-review process	9
2.10. Standard acknowledgement	9
2.11. Open access (Grant Agreement, Article 29).....	9
2.12. Timeline for Dissemination and exploitation of results (WP4)	9
3. Acknowledgement and Disclaimer	9

1. Introduction

This document sets out the outline of the REPO-TRIAL dissemination plan. On the one hand, it covers the overall objectives, stakeholders and channels of communication for the dissemination of the REPO-TRIAL project. On the other hand, it establishes the publication plan and the procedures that will facilitate the implementation of the REPO-TRIAL publication rules as set out in the REPO-TRIAL Grant Agreement (Article 29) and the REPO-TRIAL Consortium Agreement (Section 8.4).

This document applies to all Consortium members.

2. Deliverable report

2.1. Dissemination objectives

In the REPO-TRIAL project proposal, four goals have been formulated for the dissemination workpackage (WP4) that includes the communication and dissemination plan:

Objective 1: Making REPO-TRIAL known to the scientific community and the public

Objective 2: Disseminate the results to the scientific community in the academic, healthcare, regulatory and pharmaceutical sectors and foster interaction and exchange with the scientific community and the public

Objective 3: Identify and valorise the intellectual property rights (IPR) generated within WP1-4

Objective 4: Initiate next steps for performing a full phase III clinical trial and business development, foundation of a spin-out company, out-licence or partner

Objective 5: Develop interdisciplinary and specialist training modules

The objectives of this dissemination plan are the following:

- To make REPO-TRIAL known to the different stakeholders.
- To ensure that research outputs are prepared and curated in a way that helps maximise their value to the REPO-TRIAL consortium.
- To promote the scientific novelty and impact of publications involving REPO-TRIAL results.
- To ensure that fair credit is given to all individuals, including postdoctoral researchers, postgraduate students and other junior researchers, who have contributed to the research.
- To provide guidance for the review and approval of publications before submission.

2.2. Key messages of REPO-TRIAL

These are the key messages that we want to communicate to our stakeholders. These messages should be woven through all of our communication materials and activities.

Through our dissemination activities, the REPO-TRIAL stakeholders should become aware that:

1. Our project develops an in silico approach to optimise the efficacy and precision of drug repurposing trials
2. Repurposing registered drugs is faster and more cost-efficient than de novo drug design
3. REPO-TRIAL aims to improve the efficacy and precision of drug repurposing by redefining diseases entirely mechanistically, as opposed to merely descriptive definitions by symptom or organ
4. Research animal use can be significantly reduced if the above approaches are used in synergy

2.3. Target audiences

These are the people or institutes that we want to reach with our dissemination. They will be contacted through various channels of communication (see 2.4).

Scientific community

- Academic sectors: universities / research institutions and foundations / biomedical scientists from academia and industry interested in disease re-classification and drug repurposing, bioinformaticians
- Industry: Biotech, Pharma, Diagnostic companies, IT/AI companies
- Regulatory: EMA, EU-JRCs
- Publishers and conference organizers
- Healthcare sectors: clinics, patient care / support organisations, patient organisations
- Professional / scientific societies such as European clinical discipline societies (ESC, ESN); societies for stroke and heart disease, immune diseases

General public

- Participants of studies
- Families of patients
- Other interested parties: science journalists, medical journalists, press agencies

Government / European policy makers

- European Commission and its press offices
- National research institutes and contact points
- Healthcare authorities

Commercial sector

- Pharmaceutical companies
- Payers and other stakeholders in social security

2.4. Channels of communication

These are the major communication channels that the REPO-TRIAL consortium will use. Table 1 below summarises the channels of communication, what will be shared via the respective channel and which audience we aim to address as well as the timeline.

Channel of communication	Content	Audience	When
Website	Project information	Scientific community; Policy makers; Industry; General public	Month 4, regularly updated throughout the project
	News updates (i.e. on results and progress)	Scientific community; General public	Throughout project (when relevant)
	Copies of publications	Scientific community; General public	Throughout project (when relevant)
	Non-IPR sensitive data	Academic groups; healthcare professionals; patients; patient care/supports organisations	Throughout project (when relevant)
	Clinically oriented support information	Healthcare professionals; patients	When available
	Announcement of events	Scientific community; general public; collaborators	Throughout project (when relevant)
	Deliverables which are not confidential	Scientific community; General public	Throughout project (when relevant)
Media	Press-release start of the project	Scientific community; General public	Start of the project
	Press-release on important findings	Scientific community; General public	Throughout project (when relevant)
Social Media, namely LinkedIn group & Twitter	Short updates on publications, news and events related to REPO-TRIAL	Scientific community; General public	Whenever relevant information available
National and international scientific meetings / conferences / symposia	Primary research outcomes	Scientific community; Policy makers; Industry (e.g. European clinical discipline societies (ESC, ESN), leading	Throughout project (when relevant)

Channel of communication	Content	Audience	When
		international bioinformatics conferences, COST conferences (CA15120 OpenMultiMed, EASyM conferences))	
Scientific journals (open access), e.g. Systems Medicine	Primary research outcomes	Scientific community	Throughout project (when relevant)
Workshop participation - Online learning material and videos - Open access to the pre-clinicaltrials.org platform for data and sample repositories to facilitate systematic reviews and meta-analyses	Primary research outcomes, databases and software tools	Biomedical scientists from academia and industry interested in disease re-classification and drug repurposing	
Mailing lists	Updates / summaries of most important goals and findings	Health care professionals	Depends on frequency of mailinglists that we will make use of.
	Main research outcomes and implications of studies (WP3)	Participants in studies	When available

Table 1: Overview of communication channels and target audience

2.5. Valorisation & IPR

Patenting is central to the valorization of REPO-TRIAL results, required for their developability. The program has not yet reached a stage where potentially patentable intellectual property rights (IPRs) can be defined. In the further course of the project the REPO-TRIAL PIs at each site will promptly inform the project coordinator whether IP might exist, and whether it should be protected by filing a patent. The H.M. Pharma Consultancy will provide advice regarding the responsibility for filing and protecting IPRs. All partners have experienced legal officers at their institution who can assist in IPR aspects. Individual partners will make sure that their discoveries with commercial potential are appropriately transferred and fully exploited – as peer-reviewed publications, new software or specific patents.

2.6. Workpackage 4 and the monitoring process

WP4 develops the REPO-TRIAL dissemination based on the input from the REPO-TRIAL partners, oversees its implementation and reports to the Steering Committee. It is responsible for designing a structured communication plan for dissemination and the exploitation of results and will monitor the steps being taken. Together with the Project Management Office it will oversee the comprehensive internal and external dissemination of project results and knowledge.

At every annual General Assembly meeting (or a dedicated telephone conference), every site PI of REPO-TRIAL will be asked by the WP4 leader about their plans for dissemination in the coming year, and whether intellectual property will have to be protected.

Planned dissemination and exploitation activities will be traced including journal publications in the REPO-TRIAL dissemination tracker.

The REPO-TRIAL dissemination tracker records plans for

- journal publications
- posters and papers at conferences
- other dissemination activities geared towards the relevant stakeholders, e.g. press releases
- exploitation of generated IP, e.g. patents

The PI of each REPO-TRIAL partner provide an update on their plans to WP4 by updating the REPO-TRIAL dissemination tracker at least once a year but an update can be submitted to WP4 as often as required. The REPO-TRIAL dissemination tracker will be available on the REPO-TRIAL intranet.

WP4 will not do a peer-review of manuscripts but it will oversee and steer the dissemination process. The idea is that potential papers and other dissemination and exploitation activities will be identified and documented in advance by the PIs and confirmed by the Steering Committee.

2.7. Principle of authorship

Suggested author order for scientific publications:

- Lead author(s)
- Other researchers directly and substantially involved in data generation, analysis, and interpretation of the research.
- PI members who made minor and/or indirect scientific contributions that do not qualify them for personal authorship will be acknowledged by adding the words “for the REPO-TRIAL Consortium” to the author list.
- A footnote in manuscripts and posters, and a slide in presentations, shall briefly identify the PIs.

2.8. Pre-submission review and approval procedure for REPO-TRIAL dissemination

Once a manuscript of a REPO-TRIAL publication is completed, the primary author must ensure that the proposed publication complies with the rules set out in this document and also the rules established in our Grant Agreement and our Consortium Agreement (e.g. acknowledgement of funding, open access, review process). The review procedure below is not limited to publications or presentations but includes any dissemination of REPO-TRIAL results (see also figure 1 below).

- 1) All REPO-TRIAL partners must send any planned dissemination of REPO-TRIAL results to Magdalena Kosch (magdalena.kosch@concentris.de) at the Project Management Office (PMO) at least 45 calendar days before publication
- 2) PMO shares the planned publication with all REPO-TRIAL team leads proposing publication after 30 days
- 3) All team leads review the suggested dissemination for their organisation
If no objection is made within 30 days, the publication is permitted.

If an objection¹ has been raised the involved Parties discuss on how to overcome the justified grounds for the objection on a timely basis. The objecting Party can request a publication delay of not more than 90 calendar days from the time it raises such an objection. After 90 calendar days the publication is permitted.

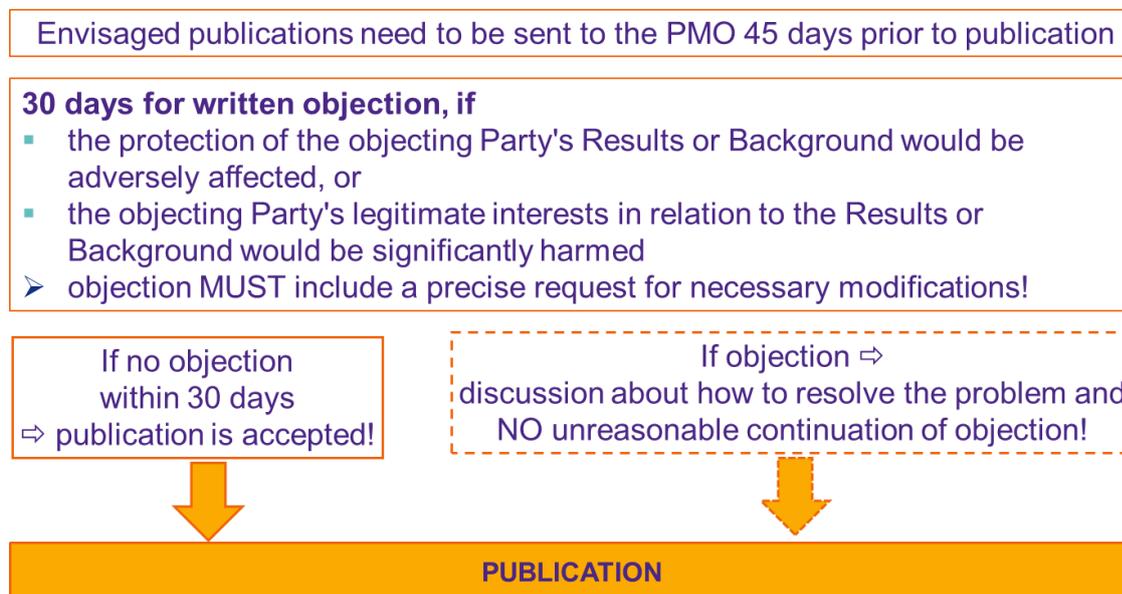


Figure 1: Flow chart of review process based on REPO-TRIAL Consortium Agreement

¹ An objection is justified if

- the protection of the objecting Party's Results or Background would be adversely affected
- the objecting Party's legitimate interests in relation to the Results or Background would be significantly harmed.

The objection has to include a precise request for necessary modifications.



2.9. Post-review process

Once a document is published (for journal articles, abstracts) or released (press releases, leaflets) an electronic copy of the published version or the final manuscript accepted for publication must be sent to the Project Management Office within 6 weeks of publication.

Magdalena Kosch at concentris (magdalena.kosch@concentris.de) is the appropriate contact point at the Project Management Office.

2.10. Standard acknowledgement

A. Acknowledgement of funding:

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 777111

Please also include a disclaimer: *This publication reflects only the author's views and the European Commission is not liable for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.*

B. Appropriate logos to be included on any dissemination

Unless it is impossible, any dissemination of results must display:

- the [EU emblem](#) and the
- [REPO-TRIAL logo](#) & URL to website

2.11. Open access (Grant Agreement, Article 29)

Each beneficiary must ensure open access (green open access - access is granted after an embargo period of 6 months max.; gold open access – paid open access) to all peer-reviewed publications relating to REPO-TRIAL results.

2.12. Timeline for Dissemination and exploitation of results (WP4)

WP04	Dissemination and exploitation of results	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
M42	Launch materials developed – press releases, YouTube, Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn accounts set up - to be updated continuously					
M43	First press release published					
D4.01	Communication and dissemination plan					
D4.02	Go-online of the public project website					
D4.03	Project brochure and professional templates					
M44	FtO and IP for 1st clinical trial					
D4.04	Define FtO for all repurposing trials plans					
D4.05	IP strategy for repurposing claims, patents on dose and formulations, biomarkers and software					
M45	All IP filed via TTO or outsourced patent lawyers					

3. Acknowledgement and Disclaimer

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