

**European Cystic Fibrosis Society - Clinical Trials Network**

**Applications for membership in 2018**

The European Cystic Fibrosis Society - Clinical Trials Network (ECFS-CTN) is a network of 43 Specialist Cystic Fibrosis Centres from 15 countries in Europe who are committed to a coordinated strategic approach to CF clinical trials in Europe and worldwide. The ECFS is inviting further applications from CF Centres to become Clinical Research Centres in this Network.

**The aim of the European Cystic Fibrosis Society - Clinical Trials Network** is to intensify clinical research in the area of cystic fibrosis and to bring new medicines to the patients as quickly as possible.  This is achieved by:

* Sharing expertise among dedicated CF researchers
* Expert reviewing of clinical trial protocols
* Maintaining high quality within sites by monitoring site participation and performance in studies and issuing quality reports to the sites
* Standardising outcome measures by writing standardised operating procedures, implementing them and setting up certification procedures and central reading
* Validating new and alternative endpoints such as LCI, Chest-CT and MRI
* Providing training to the site’s staff
* Involving and cooperating with the patient organizations and other stakeholders, such as the US CF Clinical Trials Network, the CFF-TDN (Cystic Fibrosis Foundation – Therapeutic Development Network).

**Being an ECFS-CTN site implies that:**

* The lead person of the site (called the Principal Investigator or PI) will ensure swift communication between the site and the ECFS-CTN coordinating centre. The PI will also ensure swift communication within this site about ECFS-CTN activities.
* The PI or a site representative will attend the 2 face-to-face meetings of the ECFS-CTN each year, a 2-day winter meeting at the Steering Committee Meeting and one half-day summer meeting at the annual ECFS Conference.
* Some site members will be involved in ECFS-CTN committees
* The site will only conduct pharma studies that have been reviewed and approved by the ECFS-CTN. Likewise, feasibility checks will only be filled out once an agreement has been reached between the sponsor and the ECFS-CTN. The site will inform the ECFS-CTN about planned interventional Investigator-initiated studies.
* A dedicated person will fill out enrolment information quarterly for the whole site on the online Trial Management System (adult and paediatric if relevant)

More information is available on the ECFS-CTN website: [ecfs-ctn@uzleuven.be](mailto:ecfs-ctn@uzleuven.be)

**The eligibility criteria to be an ECFS-CTN site are:**

* To be a specialist CF Centre in a European country or in a country connected to Europe according to the European Neighbourhood Policy

(<http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/international/neighbourhood_policy/index_en.htm>)

* Applications should be from “mixed” (adult and paediatric clinic in 1 hospital) or “joint” (adult and paediatric clinic in 2 different hospitals) paediatric/adult centres and satisfy the following: a) both sites together have at least 200 patients in total, b) they can show active collaboration, c) the site PI is willing to act as contact person for both areas and d) the PI and co-PI are representative of both paediatric and adult areas, e) the paediatric and adult clinics are in the same town or city. Please note that a centre composed of more than one paediatric and one adult centre i.e. “composite site” (grouping of several paediatric or adult centres in different locations) will not be eligible
* The site PI and co-PI must show, involvement in the care of CF patients, experience in CF clinical research, commitment to work within ECFS-CTN regulations and the ability to effectively communicate in a timely fashion
* The site works according to ECFS Standards of Care:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1569199318300298>

* The site has experience in CF clinical research, particularly pharma initiated interventional drug trials
* ICH-GCP certification is held by at least the PI and co-PI, and preferably by the entire clinical research team
* The site has human, logistical, administrative and technical resources to run clinical trials
* The site has institutional support (as evidenced by personnel, space, contracting facility or other program support)
* The PI and co-PI are current ECFS members

**Evaluation of applications:**

An Evaluation Board will be appointed by the Board of the ECFS. The Evaluation Board will be responsible for the ranking of the received applications. The Evaluation Board will not include physicians from centres applying to participate in the network.

Applications will be reviewed for eligibility criteria and scored according to the following criteria:

* Quality of the centre (#50%)
* Experience in clinical research (#30%)
* Resources for clinical research (#20%)

Please fill out the application form below and send it back to ecfs-ctn@uzleuven.be

**Deadline = October 15th, 2018**

***Privacy statement***

*The following application form asks or personal data regarding the investigators at your site. We only ask for personal data that is necessary to judge your site’s application to join CTN.*

*Your data will be shared with the members of the evaluation board, which may include members from outside of the EU. We will not share the data in this application form with anyone for marketing or commercial purposes. We may share your data with trusted third party contractors for ECFS-CTN, such as the IT consultant who manages our servers.*

*We will retain your data as long as necessary to judge your application and to provide CTN related services to your site.*

*Please contact us at* [*ecfs-ctn@uzleuven.be*](mailto:ecfs-ctn@uzleuven.be) *if you would like more information about how we protect your privacy, if you would like a copy of the data we hold about you, or if you would like us to delete all data we hold about you.*

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| **Centre information** |
| **Name and first name of PI:**  Email address:  Telephone number:  Name and address of PI's CF Centre:       Centre:  Adult  Paediatric  Adult and Paediatric  ECFS membership number for 2018:  **Name and first name of co-PI:**  Email address:  Telephone number:  Name and address of co-PI's CF Centre (if different):  Centre:  Adult  Paediatric  Adult and Paediatric  ECFS membership number for 2018:  **1 - PIs qualifications**  *Care of CF patients*  What is your position in the CF centre? (e. g. (lead) physician, centre director…)    How many CF patients are currently under your direct care in your centre?        Adults        Children  If you don't personally follow CF patients, in what way are you involved in their care?  *Experience in CF clinical trials*  For how many CF industry-sponsored interventional drug trials have you been the principal investigator in the past 5 years (2014-2018)? (trials to be identified in section 4)  Phase 1 (including CF patients):  Phase 2:  Phase 3:  *Commitment to work within ECFS-CTN*  How many hours per month (on average), will you be able to dedicate to ECFS-CTN activities i.e. protocol review, ECFS-CTN meetings, telephone conferences and other network activities? (excluding the activities related to clinical trial preparation and conduct)  less than 2 hours per month  around 4 hours per month  more than 4 hours per month  *Publications*  List your CF-related publications during the past 5 years (2014-2018): only original articles in peer-reviewed journals need to be listed.  *Collaborative activities*  List national or international CF-related working groups in which you have been involved during the past 5 years (2014-2018). If they had led to publications, please provide the reference.    Are you collaborating with a national patient organization?  Yes  No  If yes, please indicate which organization and explain how you collaborate:    List any other international collaborative activity:    **2 – Co-PI qualifications**  *Care of CF patients*  What is your position in the CF centre? (e. g. (lead) physician, centre director…)    How many CF patients did you personally take care of in 2018 in your CF centre?        Adults        Children  If you don't personally follow CF patients, in what way are you involved in their care?  *Experience in CF clinical trials*  For how many CF industry-sponsored trials have you been the principal investigator for in the past 5 years (2014-2018)? (trials to be identified in section 4)  Phase 1 (including CF patients):  Phase 2:  Phase 3:  *Commitment to work within ECFS-CTN*  How many hours per month (on average), will you be able to dedicate to ECFS-CTN activities i.e. protocol review, ECFS-CTN meetings, telephone conferences and other network activities? (excluding the activities related to clinical trial preparation and conduct)  less than 2 hours per month  around 4 hours per month  more than 4 hours per month  *Publications*  List your CF-related publications during the past 5 years (2014-2018): only original articles in peer-reviewed journals need to be listed.    *Collaborative activities*  List national or international CF-related working groups in which you have been involved during the past 5 years (2014-2018). If they had led to publications, please provide the reference.    Are you collaborating with a national patient organization?  Yes  No  If yes, please indicate which organization and explain how you collaborate:    List any other international collaborative activity: |
| **3 - Description of your centre**  1 – **Number of patients** (not counting the transplanted patients)  Number of adults (≥ 18 years old) followed at your site in 2018:  Number of children (≤ 17 years old) followed at your site in 2018:  2 – **If it is a joint paediatric/adult application:**   * Please describe: in which ways do both sites collaborate? |

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| 3 – **Standards of care**  *For the centre covered by this application:*  Is your centre recognized by a National authority:  Yes  No  If yes, which one and date of acknowledgement:  *Multidisciplinary Team*   |  |  | | --- | --- | | CF-dedicated resources | Full-time equivalent (dedicated to CF) | | Consultants (MD) |  | | Specialist nurses |  | | Physiotherapists |  | | Dietitians |  | | Psychologists |  | | Social workers |  | | Pharmacists |  | | Secretarial support |  |   *Patient follow-up:*   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Frequency of routine appointments | Every       months | | Full medical review is performed at least once a year | Yes  No | | Full dietetic review is performed at least once a year | Yes  No | | Full physiotherapy review is performed at least once a year | Yes  No | | Full psychosocial review is performed at least once a year | Yes  No | | Other: specify |  |   *Are the below facilities available at your site?: :*   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Sweat test | Yes  No  NA | | CF-specialist in microbiology | Yes  No  NA | | CFTR geneticist | Yes  No  NA | | Program for transition from paediatric to adult care | Yes  No  NA | | Facilities for home IV treatment | Yes  No  NA | | Facilities allow for patient segregation (prevention of cross-infection) | Yes  No  NA | | Access to other specialists on the hospital site (gastroenterology and hepatology (with  expertise to perform emergency endoscopic ligation of oesophageal varices); diabetes and endocrinology; ear, nose and throat surgery; cardiothoracic and general surgery; specialist anaesthesia and pain control; rheumatology; nephrology; obstetrics and  gynaecology; psychiatry; intensive care; radiology incl. interventional radiology (with expertise in emergency bronchial arterial embolization, and elective percutaneous ultrasound-directed gastrostomy), palliative medicine. | Yes  No  NA  Comments: | | Other: specify |  |   Do you have a national program for improving quality in CF care?  Yes  No  If yes, do you participate in this program?  Yes  No  Do you enter your patients into a Registry?  Yes  No  If yes, which one:  National  European  Other: specify  If yes, what percentage of your patients were entered last year?  **4 - Experience of the site in clinical research**  ***Industry-sponsored trials***  List the industry-sponsored trials in CF patients in which your site has participated during the past 5 years (2014-2018). (Trials not registered in clinical trials.gov or EUDRACT need not be listed)   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Full name of the trial | Clinical trials.gov identifier or EUDRACT number | Name of the site's PI | Phase 1 (a or b), 2, 3 or 4 | Number of patients enrolled by your site | |  |  |  |  |  |   ***Investigator-initiated-trials***  List the CF-related investigator-initiated-trials in which your site has participated during the past 5 years (2014-2018) AND which was published or presented at an international conference (please list the references or provide the abstracts)   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Full name of the trial and reference of the publication | National or Multinational | Was your site the site initiating the trial? | Name of the site's PI | Number of patients enrolled by your site | |  |  |  |  |  | |

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| **5 - Resources for clinical research**  ***Personnel***   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  |  | % time dedicated to CF clinical research | Years of experience in CF clinical research | Date of last GCP certificate | | Investigators | Enter names:  -  -  - | -  -  - | -  -  - | -  -  - | | Research nurses | -RN1:  -RN2: | -  - | -  - | -  - | | Research coordinators | -RC1:  -RC2:  -RC3: | -  - | -  - | -  - | | Pharmacists specific for clinical trials | - | - | - | - | | Additional personnel involved in clinical research e.g. research administrator | - | - | - | - |   ***Database*:**  Are the CF patients characteristics listed in a database at your site?  Yes  No  If yes:  How many patients are in the database?  Who is responsible for its maintenance?  How often is it filled out?  How does your site identify patients meeting certain inclusion/exclusion criteria for clinical trials? (multiple answers possible)  Automatic query in the hospital or CF centre electronic database  Manual search in the hospital or CF centre electronic database  Via the national registry  ***CF-specific outcome parameters***  Please indicate which of the following are available at your centre: |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | Multiple breath inert gas washout for lung clearance index  ECFS-CTN certified? | Yes  No  Yes  No | | Nasal PD measurement  ECFS-CTN certified? | Yes  No  Yes  No | | Intestinal current measurement | Yes  No | | High resolution CT scan | Yes  No | | Magnetic Resonance Imaging | Yes  No | | Fibreoptic bronchoscopy | Yes  No | | BAL inflammatory markers processing: cytology, IL and PG measurements | Yes  No | | Infant lung function test | Yes  No | | Sputum induction and processing | Yes  No | | **Other** (please specify): |  |   ***Clinical research facility:***  Is there a dedicated area in your centre/hospital for clinical trials?    If yes, how many CF patients can you receive per day for a trial visit?    ***Phase 1 capacity:***   1. Can your site perform phase 1 studies involving **CF patients**:  * involving overnight stays in hotels near your CF centre?  Yes  No * involving overnight stays in your CF centre?  Yes  No * involving overnight stays in a specialized phase 1 unit?  Yes  No   + will this need contracting with a separate phase 1 unit?  Yes  No   + Is this phase 1 unit     - part of your hospital     - or a separate entity? * without overnight stays but with assessments outside business hours (e.g. PK 12 hours post dosing?)  Yes  No  1. Can your site perform phase 1 studies involving **healthy volunteers**:  * involving overnight stays in hotels near your CF centre?  Yes  No * involving overnight stays in your CF centre?  Yes  No * involving overnight stays in a specialized phase 1 unit?  Yes  No   + will this need contracting with a separate phase 1 unit?  Yes  No   + Is this phase 1 unit     - part of your hospital     - or a separate entity? * without overnight stays but with assessments outside business hours (e.g. PK 12 hours post dosing?)  Yes  No   **6 - Institutional support**  Please provide a letter of support from the Head of Department or Clinical Director. You may also provide any other document you may find useful in showing your institutional support.  **7 – Signatures PI and co-PI**  **PI name:**  **Date:**  **Signature:**  **Co-PI name:**  **Date:**  **Signature:** |