

## The European Myeloma Network (EMN)

EMN is a consortium, integrating laboratory research and innovative cancer therapy in multiple myeloma (MM) and related disorders.

The network was established in 2003 by integrating research institutions and trial groups with the intent to support development of novel diagnostics and therapies for multiple myeloma.

### Objectives

The network has identified major research areas with the ultimate goal to improve patient care, including possible preventive measures, identification of individuals at high risk of developing myeloma, timely diagnosis, tumour treatment and supportive care of individuals suffering from monoclonal gammopathy (MG) or MM.

### Goals

The expertise is networked around a joint programme which includes interlinked goals:

- Construction of an online communication system as a core function of the network for communication, documentation, education and information.
- Establishment of a European based laboratory and clinical network of excellence for the exploitation and strengthening of translational research, technology and training.
- Regulation of clinical oriented research, in particular clinical trials.

The network will remain open due to the ongoing process of recruitment of new members and activities.

Europe will capitalize on this network by integrating the latest developments in scientific and technological advances into patient management.

*The European Myeloma Network*  
[www.myeloma-europe.org](http://www.myeloma-europe.org)

The word 'PAST' is written in a large, bold, orange, sans-serif font, centered within a grey rectangular background.

## Organization

EMN is a legalised organization supporting co-operative clinical trials and laboratory research in Multiple Myeloma. The synergy and the overall objectives are supported by qualitative and quantitative indicators and components:

- The management of a research portfolio and training programme.
- Strong support to research projects.
- The research infrastructure, equipment, tools and technical platforms, e.g. generation of an extensive tissue bank and clinical database.
- Integration of basic research including new technologies in order to promote translation from bench to bedside, e.g. coordinate development of "chip" based diagnostic tests based on genomics, proteomics and cytomics.
- Great extent of mutual specialization and complementary, e.g. by development of a strategy to organize and conduct large-scale, international clinical trials being able to address therapeutic issues that cannot be solved at a national level.
- Interactive registration of data and educational training programme through electronic communication systems.
- Strong commitment to secure funding.

## Working Groups

EMN has established cooperative groups with focus on:

- Clinical Trials.
- Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplantation and Immunotherapy.
- New Drugs.
- Pathogenesis and Standardization.
- More can be established if required.

**PRESENT**

## More than 170 members

EMN has more than 170 registered members all over Europe. The membership is free of charge for individuals.

Please visit our web site at [www.myeloma-europe.org](http://www.myeloma-europe.org) and register online.

## Activities

The EMN has planned several future activities.

These involve:

- EU proposals for the 7th Framework calls
- Workshop on MFC, FISH and GEP in Europe
- Support of clinical trials in WM and MM



At present the EMN prepare EU proposals for the 7th Framework calls:

- **Network of Excellence** structuring translational research between myeloma centers in Europe. It will be a multidisciplinary, investigator-driven network integrating research amongst institutions and hospitals by careful coordination and prioritization of patient-directed therapy strategies.
- **Clinical trials on rare cancers in adults** integrating translational research amongst institutions at the forefront of clinical evidence based therapy.
- **Predicting individual response and resistance to therapy** integrating relevant data obtained through methodologies from clinical research on pharmacogenetics/-genomics, on genetic variation in the host and tumors to implement innovative screening methodologies and prediction of individual response.

# FUTURE