

# Together for Healthy Lives In Europe

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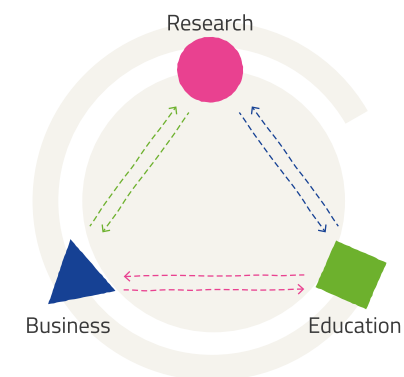


# About EIT Health

EIT Health is a vast, vibrant community of some of the world's leading health innovators, backed by the European Union. We are part of Europe's largest innovation network, the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), which brings together more than 1,000 partners who work in collaboration to find innovative solutions to pressing global challenges.

Working across borders, through approximately 150 EIT Health partner organisations, we bring together the brightest minds in healthcare from the worlds of business, research and education to answer some of the biggest health challenges facing Europe.

Through this unique collaborative approach, we are empowering a network of innovators to overcome barriers, challenge convention and take action to put innovative products and services into the hands of those that need them the most.



**We call this meeting point the 'knowledge triangle' - we believe the best innovation happens when these three worlds connect.**



# Our Mission

**Our mission is to transform healthcare in Europe, for healthier citizens and a re-energised economy**

## Why? Europe is facing a turning point in health.

Over the past 150 years, average life expectancy has increased by approximately 4-5 years per generation, leading to an ageing population. Chronic disease and growing multi-morbidity are causing an estimated economic loss of €115 billion per year<sup>1</sup>, whilst the cost of healthcare delivery increases. Furthermore, entrenched social and healthcare systems have a slow pace of change and adaptation. However, through a focus on prevention and innovative new approaches in condition management and healthcare delivery, we all can live healthier lives for longer.

Our vision is that improvements in European healthcare systems will facilitate citizens' equal and fast access to high quality and affordable care across Europe, thus leading to improved health outcomes.

1. <http://chrodis.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/chrodis-in-rome-integrated-multimorbidity-care-model.pdf>



# Our six Focus Areas

## EIT Health works across six areas to create a sustainable healthcare system long term:



### Reforming care pathways

From diagnosis to treatment, care pathways are essential, yet current strategies focus heavily on the treatment phase. We are extending care pathways to provide end-to end care before the onset of disease through to end-of-life support. And, we are optimising long-term care to enable people with chronic conditions to live as well as possible.



### Healthcare transformation

We believe in revolutionising healthcare in Europe. We're uniquely placed to accelerate the modernisation of healthcare systems in Europe. We bring together innovators and pool their talent to overcome fragmentation across healthcare delivery and create a sustainable healthcare system that can support an ageing society.



### Harnessing real-world data

Healthcare data provides rich insight into diseases and, when used efficiently, it will open up new possibilities. It will deliver prediction models for early diagnosis, enhance treatment and inform how we can lead healthier lives. We want to exhaust the wealth of healthcare data available across Europe to improve the lives of patients and citizens.



### Bringing care home

Healthcare delivery is changing, shifting from the hospital and into the home. Significantly enhancing the integration of health and social care will be vital in ensuring European citizens receive optimal treatment while releasing pressure on hospital services.



### Health in the workplace

In Europe, work-related stress affects one in four employees, leading to significant levels of absence – this is just one of the many work related conditions we need to address. We want to improve workplace health at every level through better education, improved personal awareness and helping to make healthy choices easier.



### Fostering healthier lives

Patients and citizens in Europe are at the centre of what we do. We want to change lifestyle behaviours by creating tools and incentives for patients that help protect their health by preventing early ageing and reducing disease and disability.

# Our Network

We bring together and connect a vast and vibrant community to connect approximately 150 world-class organisations and entities, harnessing their combined knowledge to nurture the brightest ideas, solutions, companies and people to drive real-world innovation.

The power of the network, which spans, amongst others, pharmaceuticals, medtech, payers, hospitals, research institutions and universities, provides a unique access to all aspects of the innovation jigsaw to help overcome the challenges that can exist in taking innovation from a concept into the hands of doctors, patients and citizens.

## Our Presence

EIT Health is on-the-ground across Europe. Headquartered in Munich, EIT Health has a pan-EU representation via seven regional innovation hubs, which operate as strong clusters of relevant actors collaborating as a thriving ecosystem.

The InnoStars cluster brings together organisations from more progressive regions where the overall pace of innovation is more moderate. In addition, EIT Health has expanded the community's presence with a Regional Innovation Scheme, as well as further hubs in the United States and Israel, which connect innovators across Europe to other key thriving ecosystems beyond the EU.



## Our Alumni

Anyone who participates in an EIT Health programme, course, or has received EIT Health funding can join our Alumni network. The Alumni network is a multidisciplinary community of innovators building the future of healthcare and membership provides a multitude of benefits including job opportunities and training.

# Our Partners

Our partners include leading corporations working within healthcare from across Europe.

**"Partners are essential as nobody has the skills to face all the challenges of building innovative products and entering the market on their own. The EIT Community has helped us foster cross-border cooperation in a major way."**

MARC JULIEN, DIABELOOP,  
EIT INNOVATOR AWARD WINNER 2019

**"Collaborations between academic researchers and industry are essential in helping to understand unmet clinical needs and in developing appropriate technology solutions to address those needs; ultimately resulting in better patient care and outcomes."**

ATTILA FERIK, GE HEALTHCARE



**Approximately 150 world-class organisations and entities working in collaboration to transform healthcare in Europe.**





# How Do We Support Innovation?

**We have launched 40+ products or services onto the market including solutions for the diagnosis of prostate cancer, the management of diabetes and tackling anti-microbial resistance.<sup>1</sup>**

## Innovation

Our innovation projects connect bold approaches to the people who can make them a reality by turning them into a commercially viable product or service. For each innovation project, we build a task force of world-class experts from the worlds of business, research and education, and it is here, that our unique approach to innovation comes to life.

Ideas don't have to be fully informed – our Wild Card initiative is open to anyone whose thinking could help transform healthcare.

**We have educated thousands of professionals and graduates and developed 19 Massive Open Online Courses for citizens. Our unique online vocational training course for carers, CARE Campus, has helped more than 3,500 families.**

## Campus

Our education programme, Campus, engages learners from across society to enable continuous innovation in European healthcare. We bridge the gap between academia and enterprise to upskill professionals on new innovative techniques and provide the practical knowledge and inspiration learners need to deliver future innovation. We also promote better healthcare in citizens and patients.

**Since we launched in 2016, EIT Health has already supported more than 372 start-ups across Europe and raised more than €40m+ investment in early stage enterprises.<sup>1</sup>**

## Accelerator

The EIT Health Accelerator is a catalyst for new business growth to deliver transformative products and services. We work with entrepreneurs, start-ups and SMEs to shorten the time-to-market for life-changing products and services, while creating new jobs and contributing to a thriving health economy.

Through our unique network of world-class healthcare organisations, EIT Health links entrepreneurial businesses with the knowledge and resources to scale up and scale out as quickly as possible.

**This forum has explored the topic of big data and how to maximise its potential in healthcare as well as reviewing how to optimise the innovation pathway, from ideation through to commercialisation and adoption.**

## Think Tank

The Think Tank explores, in differing ways, the topics of greatest significance for the health of Europe. It brings together data, trends and influential experts across regions and disciplines to help navigate the healthcare landscape and raise awareness amongst decision-makers of the opportunities and barriers that exist for a more sustainable healthcare future.

# How Are We Already Impacting Health Innovation?

Every day we spark, shape and mould cutting-edge innovations, taking them from ideas to reality.

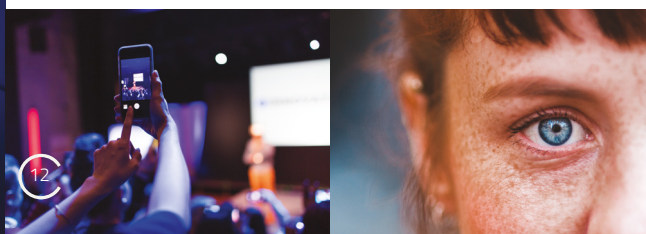
We have supported **hundreds of start-ups**, trained **thousands of professionals and graduates** and **launched many cutting-edge products** onto the market that address previously unmet needs.

Read more about Abtrace, Peptomyc and Vigo on the next three pages and find out more about how we're impacting healthcare innovation in our Spotlight video series.

[spotlight.eithealth.eu](https://spotlight.eithealth.eu)



「spotlight」



GETTING ANTIBIOTICS RIGHT

## Abtrace

TOGETHER FOR HEALTHY LIVES IN EUROPE

TEAM:

DR. CRISTINA CORREIA,  
HEIDER SOARES,  
DR UMAR NAEEM AHMAD

FIND OUT MORE:

[WWW.ABTRACE.CO](http://WWW.ABTRACE.CO)

### 1 The growing threat of AMR

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) is one of the biggest threats to global health today.<sup>[1]</sup> Every use of an antibiotic comes with a risk that resistance might develop. AMR is caused by certain bacteria becoming resistant to even the most powerful antibiotics available today, due to overuse and misuse. Resistant bacteria may infect an individual and become much harder to treat than infections caused by non-resistant bacteria.<sup>[1]</sup> Antibiotic resistance leads to longer hospital stays, higher medical costs and increased mortality.<sup>[1]</sup> A growing list of infections are becoming harder, and sometimes, impossible to treat, as antibiotics become less effective.<sup>[1]</sup>

This will ultimately help in the fight against the advancement of resistance. AI, in this instance, will help to inform the antibiotic prescribing process for clinicians, assisting in their decision making.

### 3 Fighting resistance

By helping clinicians to prescribe the most appropriate antibiotic for each individual based on their healthcare needs and condition, Abtrace are tackling antibiotic overuse and misuse head-on.

Antibiotic resistance causes **25,000** deaths per year in Europe and **2.5m extra hospital days**.<sup>[2]</sup>

AI is used by Abtrace to **analyse** and **aggregate** data from all over the world.

Helping clinicians **prescribe** the most **appropriate** antibiotic for each individual.

### 2 The fight against AMR: AI in action

Antibiotic resistance is accelerated by the misuse and overuse of antibiotics, as well as other factors such as poor infection prevention and control. Steps can be taken at all levels of society to reduce the impact and limit the spread of resistance, particularly by policy makers, healthcare professionals and the healthcare industry.<sup>[1]</sup>

Abtrace uses Artificial Intelligence (AI), which can analyse and aggregate vast sets of global antibiotic prescription data quickly, in a simple computer software tool.

1. [www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/antibiotic-resistance](http://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/antibiotic-resistance)

2. [www.cdc.gov/globalhealth/infographics/antibiotic-resistance/antibiotic\\_resistance\\_global\\_threat.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/globalhealth/infographics/antibiotic-resistance/antibiotic_resistance_global_threat.htm)

REIMAGINING CANCER TREATMENT

# Peptomyc

## TEAM:

DR. LAURA SOUCEK, DR. MARIE-EVE BEAULIEU,  
DR. MANUELA NIEWEL, M.D., AND PEPTOMYC  
RESEARCH TEAM

## FIND OUT MORE:

[WWW.PEPTOMYC.COM](http://WWW.PEPTOMYC.COM)

FROM EDUCATION TO INNOVATION

# Vigo

## TEAM:

KRISTAPS KRAFTE,  
JANIS SLEZINS,  
MARIJA ALEHINA

## FIND OUT MORE:

[WWW.VIGO.HEALTH](http://WWW.VIGO.HEALTH)

## 1 The challenge in gaining support for a new idea

Based on the notion that the protein Myc played an important role in cancer cells' survival and proliferation, Dr Soucek found that attacking it could lead to a potential therapy for multiple types of cancer.<sup>[1]</sup>

However, Dr Soucek was advised by many people not to progress beyond the proof of concept. In addition to the high costs involved, as a scientist, with no experience of entrepreneurship, Dr Soucek faced difficulties securing the support she needed to start a business.

## 2 Joining the EIT Health community – becoming an entrepreneur

Dr Soucek's passion for fighting cancer led her to EIT Health. She attended a series of programmes that helped her gain the vital financial and business support she needed for her new start-up, Peptomyc.

Access to EIT Health's vast network meant Dr Soucek also received bespoke advice from internationally renowned consultants and had the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with other founders of other start-ups.

Ultimately, the network enabled Dr Soucek to progress towards clinical trials and build an evidence base to demonstrate the potential of her therapy.

## 3 Paving the way for others

Peptomyc is now completing the industrial production of their medicine and will proceed to clinical trials in patients in 2020. Dr Soucek and her team were the first researchers to show that inhibiting Myc was feasible and has a therapeutic impact against cancer without damaging normal tissues.<sup>[1]</sup>

The research has since paved the way for many more groups around the world who are now developing their own Myc inhibitors.<sup>[2]</sup>

**On average, it costs €2.3 billion to bring a medicine to market.<sup>[3]</sup>**

**"I don't feel alone anymore. I have support from EIT Health and we have investors in the company that believe in the project."**

DR LAURA SOUCEK

1. Soucek et al. Modelling Myc inhibition as a cancer therapy. *Nature* 2008; 455, 679-683.  
2. Whitfield, Beaulieu and Soucek. Strategies to Inhibit Myc and Their Clinical Applicability. *Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology*. 2017.  
3. DiMasi JA, Grabowski HG, Hansen RA. Innovation in the pharmaceutical industry: new estimates of R&D costs. *Journal of Health Economics* 2016;47:20-33.

## 1 The impact of stroke: physical, psychological and economic

As the European population rapidly ages, the burden of stroke is expected to increase significantly, posing huge challenges to limited healthcare resources.<sup>[1]</sup>

There are physical, psychological and economic burdens associated with stroke which all require significant care, consideration and rehabilitation. Receiving rehabilitation has been shown to improve functional outcomes, decrease mortality and reduce the length of hospital stays.<sup>[1]</sup> But stroke survivors often require long-term rehabilitation, which isn't always easily accessible.

## 2 Cutting-edge technologies to help rehabilitate people in need

Soon after graduating from the EIT Health IHC Master's programme, Kristaps founded Vigo. This new software is now undergoing a pilot trial in a large hospital stroke unit, with plans for it to be readily available on mobile devices. It supplies the user with information, knowledge and the skills needed to tackle the many challenges they face after experiencing a stroke. Making Vigo accessible at home helps address the challenges of long-term rehabilitation without adding additional pressures to healthcare systems.

Through the IHC programme, Kristaps developed valuable skills in healthcare, business and innovation, enabling him to create a solution with the potential to provide much needed support to stroke survivors and their families.

## 3 Acceleration of ideas, working towards a healthier future

Kristaps' ambition chimed perfectly with EIT Health's vision, and he went on to benefit from our Accelerator programme, which included mentorship programmes, innovation bootcamps, conferences and a place in our international Alumni network.

**Stroke is the second most common cause of death and a leading cause of adult disability.<sup>[2]</sup>**

**"The support that EIT Health has given me and my company has been invaluable"**

KRISTAPS KRAFTE

1. Lui, S.K. and Nguyen, M.H. (2018). Elderly Stroke Rehabilitation: Overcoming the Complications and Its Associated Challenges. *Current Gerontology and Geriatrics Research*, 2018, pp.1-9.  
2. Wolfe, P.C., McKeivitt, P.C., Emmett, D.E., Wang, D.Y. and Stevens, E. (n.d.). The Burden of Stroke in Europe. [online] Stroke Alliance for Europe. Available at: [https://www.stroke.org.uk/sites/default/files/the\\_burden\\_of\\_stroke\\_in\\_europe\\_-\\_challenges\\_for\\_policy\\_makers.pdf](https://www.stroke.org.uk/sites/default/files/the_burden_of_stroke_in_europe_-_challenges_for_policy_makers.pdf) [Accessed 26 Jul. 2019].



# Find Out More

Further information about EIT Health, our programmes, impact and regional offices can be found on our website.

[www.eithealth.eu](http://www.eithealth.eu)

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Regional Innovation Scheme [innostars@eithealth.eu](mailto:innostars@eithealth.eu)

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