



II European Reference Networks Conference
Lisbon, October 8-9, 2015

Roundtable IV

ERN and better outcomes: good clinical practices

Evidence based practices and rare / low prevalence diseases

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II Eur
Lisbc



ERNs and evidence-based practices (1/2)

- **Directive 2011/24/EU** on the application of patients' rights in cross - border healthcare

Article 12 (4)(A) point (iii)

ERNs “offer a high level of expertise and have the capacity to produce good practice guidelines and to implement outcome measures and quality control”

- Commission Delegated Decision (OIEU 2014, L147/71)
- Commission Implementing Decision (OIEU 2014, L147/79)



ERNs and evidence-based practices (2/2)

- **Commission Delegated Decision** (OIEU 2014, L147/71)

Annex 1: Criteria and conditions to be fulfilled by the networks

(4) To fulfil the requirement set out in point (iii) of Article 12(4)(a) of Directive 2011/24/EU **the networks must:**

c) develop and implement clinical guidelines and cross-border patient pathways;

d) design and implement outcome and performance indicators;

(5) a) identify and fill research gaps

(6) a) identify and fill training gaps



Challenges, facilitators and opportunities

for the production and use of guidelines in rare diseases

Challenges

Guideline production and implementation is far from satisfactory in the EU

Few Countries have well-established systems in place sustained by regulations that provide mechanisms for quality assurance, implementation and use of clinical guidelines

Many countries still rely on sporadic initiatives, others lack the capacity for evidence-based guideline development

Legido-Quigley et al. 2012

Facilitators

Directive 2011/24/EU supports ERNs, which must have the capacity to produce good practices guidelines

Public funds available for methodological research in guidelines

i. **GRADE working group'** EU-funded DECIDE project

ii. **RARE-Bestpractices** EU - funded project

iii. **COMET initiative**

IV. **DECIDE**

Morciano et al. 2015; Menaka et al. for the RARE-BestPractices Consortium, 2015

Opportunities

MS are at a decisive point in establishing the criteria to ensure the transparent and effective functioning of ERNs

MS should consider the **importance** and **devote resources** to build efficient systems and capacities for the production of trustworthy guidelines, according to international standards

Ms could adopt a **cooperative approach** to optimize guideline production and implementation across countries



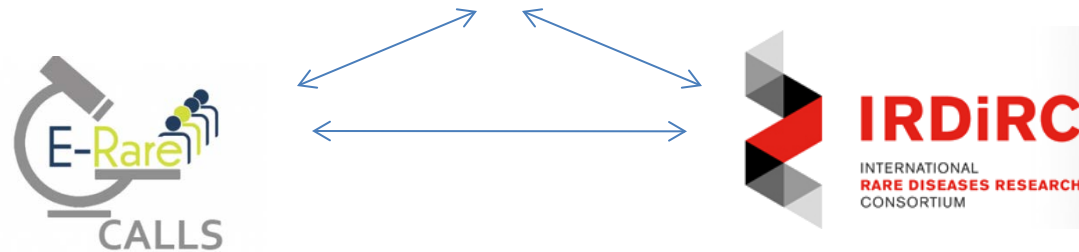
Challenges, facilitators and opportunities to the production and use of guidelines in rare diseases

Opportunities

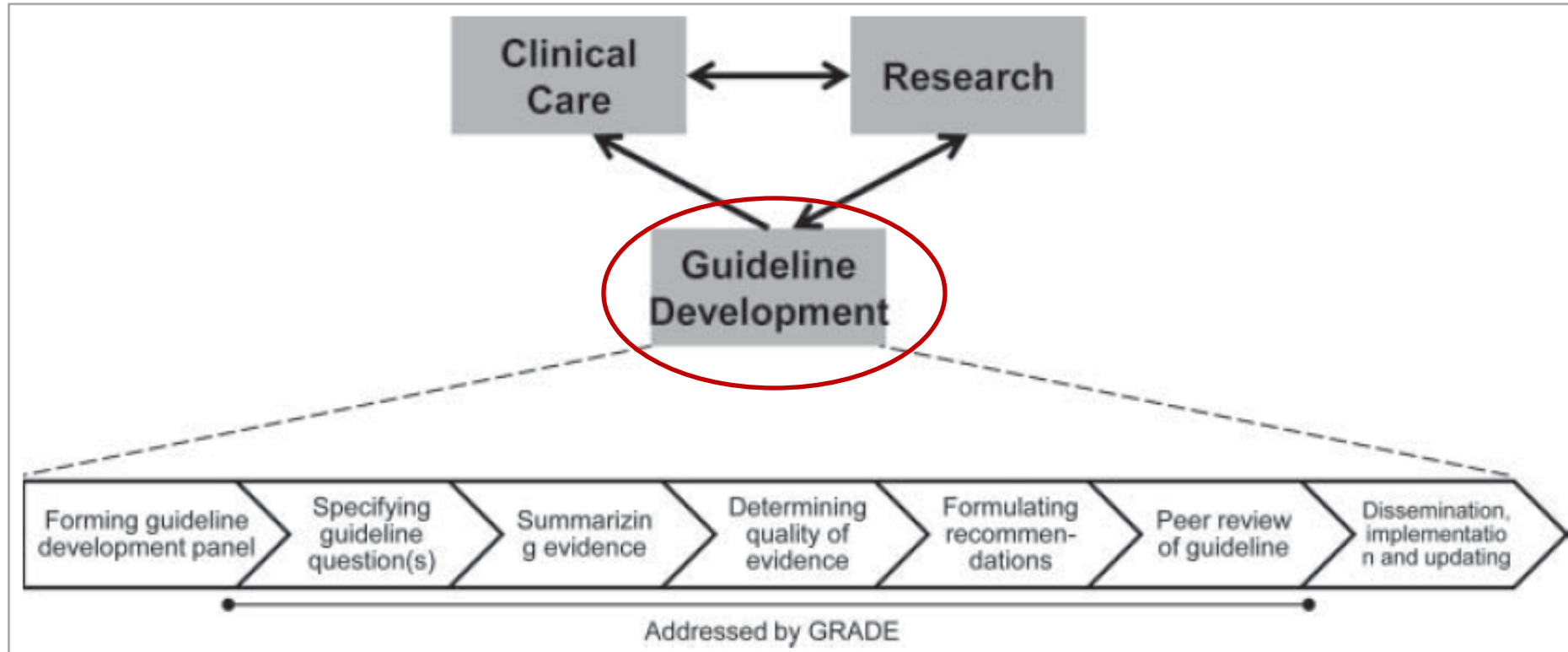
ERNs can be a **concrete opportunity** for initiating **processes of cooperation among MS** in producing trustworthy guidelines, according to international standards

Potential results of this cooperation

- **shared** health care guidelines
- identifying **research gaps**
- **formulate, prioritize** and communicate **research recommendations** to researchers and **research funders**



The relationship between clinical care, research and guidelines



Menaka Pai et al. for the RARE-BestPractices Consortium, 2015



Standards for Developing Trustworthy Clinical Practice Guidelines

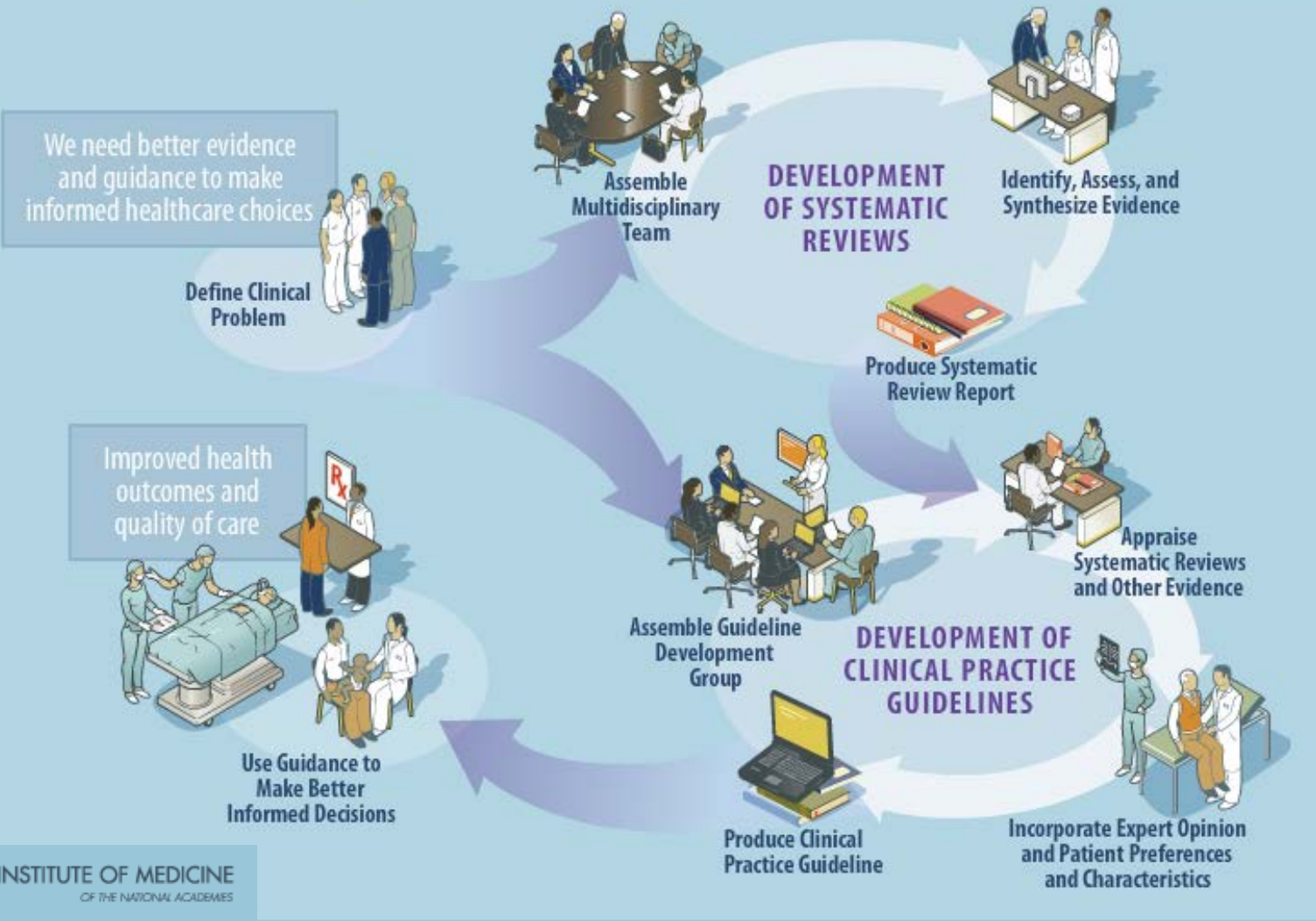
1. Establishing **transparency**
2. Management of **conflict of interest; independency**
3. **Group composition: multidisciplinary and balanced**, comprising a variety of methodological experts and clinicians, and key affected groups. Patient preferences
4. **Systematic review of the existing evidence**
5. **Provide ratings of both the quality of evidence and the strength** of the recommendations
- 6 Recommendations should be articulated in a **standardized form**
7. **External reviewers** should comprise a full spectrum of relevant stakeholders, including scientific and clinical experts, organizations (e.g., health care, specialty societies), agencies (e.g., federal government), patients, and representatives of the public.
8. **Updating**

(IOM 2011)



Systematic Reviews and Clinical Practice Guidelines Improve Healthcare Decision Making

Click on any text for more information



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Specific challenges for guideline production in rare diseases: the PICO question

- **P - Population:** defining the population of interest is a major challenge (small numbers of patients, diagnostic uncertainty, etc.)
- **I - C - Intervention and comparator :** there is often only one treatment for any given RD.
In many cases, use of placebo is not an option due to the severe course on the untreated disease.
- **Outcomes:** a key step in creating evidence-based guidelines is determining critical disease outcomes, factors important for patients, providers and health care systems. There are several challenges in defining relevant outcomes in RD (case reports, surrogate outcomes, patient reported outcomes).
The most reliable outcomes only be those related to morbidity and mortality

Menaka Pai et al. for the RARE-BestPractices Consortium, 2015



U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

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National Guideline Clearinghouse

Guidelines by Topic

Browse topics to find guidelines represented in NGC that are linked to a particular term derived from the U.S. National Library of Medicine's (NLM) Medical Subject Headings (MeSH), a controlled vocabulary for disease/condition, treatment/intervention, and health services administration. MeSH is one of the controlled vocabularies included within the Unified Medical Language System (UMLS) (what's this?)

MeSH terms are arranged hierarchically ranging from broad headings to more narrow concepts. For example, the general concept "Nervous System Diseases" can be followed through the MeSH hierarchy down to the concept "Myasthenia Gravis, Neonatal;" the broad concept "Diagnostic Techniques, Digestive System" can be followed through "Endoscopy, Gastrointestinal" to the narrow concept "Sigmoidoscopy."

Disease/Condition	Treatment/Intervention	Health Services Administration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anatomy (18) Organisms (36) Diseases (2236) Chemicals and Drugs (23) Analytical, Diagnostic and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anatomy (78) Organisms (48) Diseases (154) Chemicals and Drugs (1671) Analytical, Diagnostic and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chemicals and Drugs (4) Analytical, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Techniques and Equipment (133) Psychiatry and Psychology

Guidelines International Network

Search Website [] Search

Website Guidelines

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G-I-N Conference Amsterdam 2015
7 - 10 October 2015

www.gin2015.net

A joint project between

Guidelines International Network
Dutch G-I-N

NICE National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

NICE Pathways NICE Guidance Standards and indicators Evidence services Sign in

Search...

Home > About > What we do > Research and development

Research recommendations

NICE research uncertainties are unanswered research questions that emerge during guideline development. The recommendations are developed using the NICE research and development team. The recommendations are developed using the NICE research and development team. The recommendations are developed using the NICE research and development team.

As NICE does not have an annual budget for primary research, it has close engagement and a focus on identifying and addressing research priorities. The engagement is carried out through regular meetings with research and development team.

GRADE working group

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COMET INITIATIVE



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**Platform for sharing best practices
for the management
of rare diseases**

Project funded EU funded (7FP)

Coordination: National Centre for Rare Diseases-Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome

Duration: 2013-2016

The mandate of the RARE-Bestpractices is **knowledge management** to support evidence-informed decision-making of the rare disease community & also to support ERNs

We do this by **creating a platform with resources and tools** to facilitate access and interpretation of the rare diseases synthesis of evidence

Istituto Superiore di Sanità - National Centre for Rare Diseases

Jamarau

Karolinska Institutet

Healthcare Improvement Scotland

London School of Economics and Political Science

National Research Council

EURORDIS, European Organisation for Rare Diseases

Associazione per la Ricerca sull'Efficacia dell'Assistenza Sanitaria Centro Cochrane Italiano

Universitaetsklinikum Freiburg

Bulgarian Association for Promotion of Education and Science

Fundación Canaria de Investigación y Salud

Universiteit Maastricht - Institute for Public Health Genomics (IPHG)

Newcastle University Upon Tyne

The European Academy of Paediatrics

Instituto de Salud Carlos III



Knowledge Management Platform

(www.rarebestpractices.eu)

IT PLATFORM

**RAREGUIDELINES
RAREGAP**

TRAINING
Courses & Tools

HOME

About

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SEARCH

BROWSE BY DISEASE

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FAQ

STATISTICS

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RAREGAP

RARE-BESTPRACTICES

Welcome to RAREGUIDELINE

This website brings together guidelines of care that are included from a wide range of facilities.

The quality of the methods used to develop the guidelines and the reliability of the practice are assessed.

In addition to providing access to the database, the website allows the community to facilitate development of new guidelines.

RAREGUIDELINE

Contains only guidelines appraised for quality using a validated tool **AGREE II**

thereby allowing those using the database to identify which guidelines are of high quality.



Inclusion criteria:

Guidelines are identified through a structured process of searching known sources of guidelines including existing organizations (e.g. Guidelines International Network) and databases (National Guideline Clearinghouse, Orphanet).



RAREGUIDELINE as a resource

Guideline users

- Retrieve information to help ensure best possible care
- Inform decision making
- Select the best quality guidelines for their context
- Provide feedback/input to guidelines

Guideline developers

- Identify existing guidelines and their quality & identify gaps
- Collaborate – e.g. invite/collate comment on draft guidelines
- Disseminate their new guidelines
- Avoid duplication of effort in producing guideline

Information specialists

- Responsible for developing search strategies
- Use as search resource
- Generate bibliographies



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Welcome to RAREGAP

This resource collates validated research recommendations for diagnosis and treatment of rare diseases. These have been identified from high quality systematic reviews and are presented alongside information on ongoing clinical

RAREGAP is the **research recommendation** database of the RARE-Bestpractices project

The role of research recommendations **is to highlight uncertainty** in existing knowledge and translating this uncertainty into **proposals for future research**


Research recommendations **are identified from existing high quality systematic reviews.**

Low methodological rigor may result in the identification **of false uncertainties** where further research is not required.

RAREGAP contains details of research recommendations **identified in Cochrane reviews of rare diseases**

Training courses and tools

based on the RARE-Bestpractices work
to promote the development of trustworthy health care guidelines for rare diseases
and their use across Europe and to support the establishment of European Reference Networks



International Course

**Health care guidelines
on rare diseases:
Quality assessment**

February 23-24, 2015

**Istituto Superiore di Sanità
Rome (Italy)**



2nd International Course

**Health care guidelines
on rare diseases:
Quality assessment**

December 3-4, 2015

**Istituto Superiore di Sanità
Rome (Italy)**



**2 Courses for
guideline developers**

**Development of
treatment guidelines
10-11-12 February 2016
Milan**

**Development of
diagnostic guidelines
September 2016
Milan
Cochrane Italy**



RARE-Bestpractices
A platform for sharing best practices for the management of rare diseases
Coordinated by the Istituto Superiore di Sanità
National Centre for Rare Diseases

Home Project Participants **Platform resources** Dissemination News

RARE-Bestpractices promotes communication on the clinical management of rare diseases by disseminating trustworthy best practice guidelines globally

NEWS AND EVENTS MORE NEWS

2nd International Course "Health care guidelines on rare diseases. Quality assessment" - SAVE THE DATE!
December 3-4, 2015

Rare-Bestpractices Glossary is on line!

2nd EU Conference on European Reference Networks
Lisboa, Oct 8-9, 2015
See the draft programme

RELATED LINKS

- International Rare Diseases Research Consortium
- Rare Diseases-European Commission
- Guidelines International Network
- RARE-Bestpractices on Twitter

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a collection of appraised guidelines & development tools

RAREGAP

a collection of research recommendations

Training courses and training tools for guideline users and developers

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Improving the retrieval and dissemination of rare disease guidelines and research recommendations: a RARE-Bestpractices initiative

Michele Hilton Boon¹, Karen Ritchie¹, Jan Manson¹ for the RARE-Bestpractices Consortium²

¹Healthcare Improvement Scotland, Glasgow, UK

Policy Statement

Public Health Genomics

Public Health Genomics
DOI: 10.1159/000435852

European Reference Networks and Guideline Development and Use: Challenges and Opportunities

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MEETING REPORT

Developing methodology for the creation of clinical practice guidelines for rare diseases: A report from RARE-Bestpractices

Menaka Pai^{1,2,*}, Alfonso Iorio¹, Joerg Meerpohl³, Domenica Taruscio⁴, Paola Laricchiuta⁴, Pierpaolo Mincaroni⁵, Cristina Morciano⁴, Carlo Giacomo Leo^{6,7}, Saverio Sabina⁸, Elie Akl⁹, Shaun Treweek⁹, Benjamin Djulbegovic¹⁰, and Holger Schünemann^{1,3} for the RARE-Bestpractices Consortium¹

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Conflicts of interest policies and health care guidelines: what (whom) can we trust?

Morciano, C.M., Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome, Italy (Presenting author)

Basevi, V.B.
Faralli, C.F.
Tonon, S.T.
Taruscio, D.T.

4.1 Management of conflicts of interest

G-I-N Conference

Amsterdam 2015
7 - 10 October 2015



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Conclusions (1/2)

The **Directive 2011/24/EU** is intended to **provide a legal framework** within the European Union **to facilitate cross-border care**

Art 12 (Directive 2011/24/EU) **supports ERNs**, which **must have the capacity to produce good practices guidelines**

Good quality guidelines, produced according to international standards, do **improve health care**

MS have a great opportunity, through the establishment of ERNs,
to foster **a cooperative and coordinate approach**
to share exiting expertise and resources
for the production and implementation of care guidelines
across countries



Conclusions (2/2)

ERNs are paramount to foster

- a cooperative and coordinate approach among MS to :
- optimize guideline production and ameliorate quality assurance practices
 - identify and fill knowledge gaps
 - formulate, prioritize and communicate recommendations to researchers and research funders



**ERNs can be an opportunity
to devise
a new research governance**

Thank you !

