

**EUTRIGTREAT****Identification and therapeutic targeting of common arrhythmia trigger mechanisms**

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Coordinator: Stephan LEHNART**Project Number:** 241526**EC contribution:** € 12,000,000**Project website:** <http://www.eutrigtreat.eu>**Cardiac arrhythmias: from genes to improved management of patients**

Electrical heart disease leading to arrhythmias represents a major public health issue because it increases the risk for sudden cardiac death in a very large patient population. However, prevention of sudden cardiac death by existing device and drug based therapies is insufficient for many patients, is expensive, and increasingly strains public health resources due to a growing population at risk. In addition, identification of patients at increased risk for sudden cardiac death is ineffective, and existing prevention strategies are not directed at the underlying risk mechanisms.

To overcome these problems, the EUTrigTreat project directly investigates molecular mechanisms which trigger life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias, and in particular how genetic and environmental modulators precipitate dangerous electrical abnormalities in the heart. Better understanding of the causative arrhythmia initiating mechanisms allows for specific testing and further development of mechanism-targeted diagnostic and therapeutic approaches, and includes novel drug and device therapies. These important objectives are pursued by a multidisciplinary research team which consists both of clinical and basic scientists together with small-to-medium enterprises (SMEs). To achieve these complex goals through a large-scale collaboration within the FP7 framework, EUTrigTreat has developed a unique project strategy based on key objectives, which are realized through interactive research modules, and executed through defined scientific and administrative management structures.

**Participating sites and institutions**

<i>Germany</i>	University Medical Center Goettingen (coordinating site) Max Planck Institute for Dynamics and Self-Organization Goethe University Frankfurt am Main Endotherm GmbH (SME)
<i>Belgium</i>	Catholic University of Leuven
<i>France</i>	University of Nantes
<i>Greece</i>	Biomedical Research Foundation Academy of Athens
<i>Italy</i>	University of Padova University of Florence Light4Tech Firenze s.r.l. (SME)
<i>Netherlands</i>	University Medical Center Utrecht
<i>Switzerland</i>	University of Bern Polygene AG (SME)
<i>U.K.</i>	University of Glasgow
<i>USA</i>	University of Maryland Baltimore

