



**UEF BRAIN
RESEARCH UNIT**

UEF Brain Research Unit 2.0 ERDF



**The art
of
coworking**



uefconnect.uef.fi/en/group/brain-research-unit-bru-clinical-trial-unit/



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the European Union**



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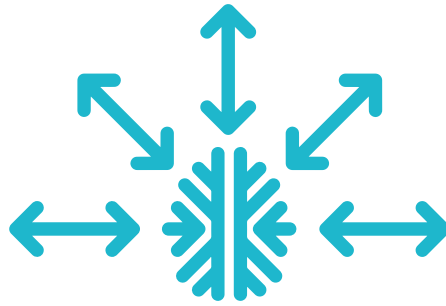


Pohjois-Savon liitto

UEF NEUROSCIENCE
RESEARCH COMMUNITY



Neurocenter Finland
Kuopio Brain & Mind



UEF Brain Research Unit 2.0 ERDF – Fluency in cooperation

The project aims to create an internationally attractive, scalable **operating model for brain health clinical trials** that can also be used in other fields of medicine.

The model is built in **multifunctional collaboration** with researchers and experts from the University of Eastern Finland (UEF), Kuopio University Hospital (KUH) / Wellbeing Services County of North Savo and the region's health sector companies.

The overall goal is to promote local business-oriented innovation in clinical research and to accelerate the translation of research findings into clinical practice.

The project has six work packages (WP).

1 Updating and expanding the UEF Brain Research Unit service concept

The aim is to conceptualise collaboration-based, scalable services linked to clinical trials and to identify international competitiveness factors and new opportunities for operations.

- Developing the UEF-KUH/ Wellbeing Services County collaboration
- Preparing to new competitiveness factors incl. digital clinical trials, distributed clinical trials and remote monitoring
- Developing services to meet identified business and science-oriented needs, e.g., development of patient recruitment and cooperation with patient organisations

2 Use of imaging data

WP2 aims to further develop the cooperation related to use of imaging data between the UEF and the KUH/Wellbeing Services County of North Savo.

- Developing ways to transfer diverse image data to UEF's efficient computing environment (UEF Bioinformatics center), e.g., open-source solutions for image data analysis integrated into the UEF environment

3 Involving Patients and the Public

WP3 aims to build the framework and concept of Patient & Public Involvement (PPI) as a part of UEF Brain Research Unit's services.

- Preparing a plan for the PPI operating model
- A Legal Clinic for people with dementia is piloted in autumn 2023 at Brain Research Unit. Data from the pilot phase will be used in the development of the Legal Clinic operating model

4 Genetics collaboration in personalised medicine

WP4 aims to utilise genetic information (genotype, phenotype) of biobank data for the development of personalised treatments for brain diseases.

- Intensifying collaboration between UEF and the Biobank of Eastern Finland and further developing the re-calling process
- Creating an operating model to identify individuals with underlying functional genetic variants associated with neurodegenerative diseases from biobanks

5 Development of UEF Biomarker Laboratory operations

WP5 aims to recognise potential academic and business collaborative approaches and to identify new competitiveness factors.

- Developing need-based biomarker analyses and validating existing commercial tests, incl. new biomarker candidates emerging from research
- Developing and validating the RT-QulC method

6 Imaging collaboration

WP6 aims to improve the UEF-KUH's/ Wellbeing Services County of North Savo's knowhow and resources to support and further develop the cooperation processes related to commercialisation, case neuroimaging cooperation in academic and commission studies.

- Describing the expertise and key infrastructure needed for imaging studies tailored to customer needs to support communication and contracts.

MORE TOGETHER - Join the new forum for co-development!

The project will organize several **thematic co-development workshops, discussions, or seminars**. These events will gather project team members and stakeholders from the academia, healthcare sector, patient organizations and industry to evaluate and develop the cooperation model together. In addition, this new forum will offer numerous meeting opportunities for identifying the R&D development needs of new services and products, finding new business opportunities, and creating new cooperation openings and partnerships.

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Project information:



- Duration: 1.3.2023–28.2.2025
- Implementation: University of Eastern Finland
- Stakeholders: Stakeholders - the experts and management carrying out RDI work in the health sector:
 - UEF, UEF Genome Center, Neurocenter Finland, Kuopio Brain & Mind
 - KUH/ Wellbeing Services County of North Savo
 - Biobank of Eastern Finland
 - Patient organisations
 - Pilot companies Blueprint Genetics Oy, Roche Diagnostics Oy, and Orion Oyj
 - Companies and stakeholders widely through the Kuopio Health ecosystem
- Funding: co-funded by the Regional Council of Pohjois-Savo from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- Project information: <https://uefconnect.uef.fi/en/group/uef-brain-research-unit-2.0>