

# Beyond lipids and smoking

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### Valorization Addendum

The following chapter will briefly describe which impact the thesis will have in terms of novel products, processes or services that are relevant for the society.

#### 1) Relevance: What are the economical and societal implications of the results?

The projects mentioned in the present thesis have significant implications for the present times regarding patient care. They lay the basis for future projects (see below) that have the potential to create data with also economical as well as societal implications.

#### 2) Target groups: Are the results of interest to somebody beyond the medical world?

Obviously, results from medical trials do have the largest impact upon affected patients and their caregivers. However, I would like to mention specifically two issues from the thesis, where the projects itself and / or the results might influence a broader community or even societal structures. That is on one hand the issue of centralized data collection for patients with rare disease. We consider the internet-based structures implemented, tested and validated for the Germany calciphylaxis registry and later for the European Calciphylaxis network "EuCalNet" [www.calciphylaxis.net](http://www.calciphylaxis.net) as a template for other rare diseases which do not allow transferring affected patients to a central study site. Moreover, successfully addressing unmet medical needs in a prototypic rare disease such as calciphylaxis and sharing experiences about the project with other caregivers as well as societal structures might directly affect the motivation and the success to copy this approach in other rare diseases. Often patients with rare diseases suffer from a dismal lack of evidence-based treatment options since the hurdles for creating such evidence have been overwhelming.

On the other hand I would like to mention the potential impact of evaluating health benefits of vitamin K for broad parts of the society. Since vitamin K is an easily available component of nutrition studies pinpointing cardiovascular health benefits of high vitamin K intake can lay the basis for future projects evaluating the rationale to use high nutritional vitamin K intake as primary prevention. Such data could substantially influence future recommendations about healthy nutrition facing the fact that calcifying arteriosclerosis is an endemic disease.

**3) Activities / products: Are there any specific products, processes, activities where the results are being applied?**

The topics covered by the recent thesis have stimulated ongoing international research efforts. I would like to specifically point towards planned as well as already recruiting trials in the field of iron-induced osteomalacia (head-to-head randomized controlled trial scheduled in 2018) as well as vascular calcification (ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02066662: "Rivaroxaban Compared to Vitamin K Antagonist Upon Development of Cardiovascular Calcification"). These trials have the potential to modify guideline recommendations regarding optimal treatment choice and need for monitoring which could increase both efficacy as well as safety.

**4) Innovation: to what extent are those innovative in comparison to existing options?**

In this regard the structures of "Eucalnet" can be considered as an innovative approach since the way data are collected and validated may be used a template for future activities. Such an approach can help identifying patients, establishing experts' networks and optimizing patient care for many other rare diseases. Moreover, the innovations realized with EuCalNet (ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02635373) have laid the foundation for performing prospective trials in the field (ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02790073) which would be virtually impossible without a sufficient network basis.

**5) Planning and realization: What are the actual plans for the valorization process, what are the risks, costs and chances?**

We have not yet established a roadmap for a systematic valorization process. However, above mentioned implications for future projects e.g. via providing the rationale and facilitating the progress have the potential to add additional value.