

# REVERSE News

Newsletter Issue 1, January 2022

## REVERSE AT A GLANCE

**REVERSE (pREvention and management tools for rEducing antibiotic Resistance in high prevalence SETTINGS)** is an EU Horizon 2020 project running from July 2021 for 5 years.



Emerging antibiotic resistance has become a serious problem not only in Europe but globally. The development and implementation of **effective prevention and control strategies** are a crucial component in combatting **antimicrobial resistance (AMR)**. Rather than in separate studies, the goal of reducing AMR in acute care hospitals can only be optimally achieved in a **collaborative approach** where various activities interact together in a large clinical trial that is sufficiently powered to provide

actionable outcomes.

**REVERSE** focusses on AMR in acute care hospitals in **Greece, Italy, Romania and Spain**. It uses a **mixed-methods approach** combining quantitative research with implementation science and economic analysis. In a sufficiently powered **clinical trial**, REVERSE will answer the question about the real-life effectiveness of infection prevention and control programmes in combination with antibiotic stewardship on healthcare-associated infections due to multidrug-resistant microorganisms: an implementation study that has not been done at this level and scope before.

To achieve this goal, **REVERSE** is supported by a strong consortium from academia, healthcare organisations and governmental bodies, including **12 beneficiaries** from Greece, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, Romania, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, as well as a total of **24 acute care hospitals** in the four southern European countries. REVERSE is led by the coordinating entity **University of Zurich (Switzerland)**, with **PD Dr Walter Zingg** as the coordinator.

Microbiology and Diagnostic Stewardship (MDS) Programme



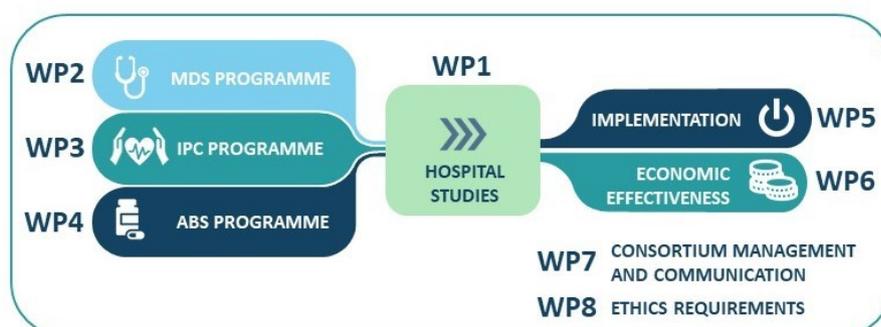
Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) Programme



Antibiotic Stewardship (ABS) Programme



**Integrated, evidence-based, modular strategy** with complementary intervention programmes for reducing the clinical burden of infections caused by multidrug-resistant (MDR) bacteria in high prevalence settings.



## In This Issue

REVERSE at a Glance

Project Consortium

Work Package Spotlight

News

Website and Social Media:

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



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# PROJECT CONSORTIUM



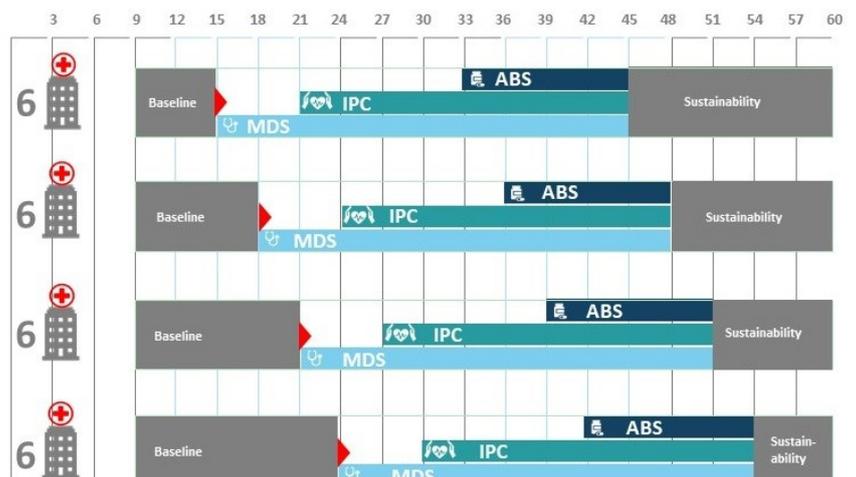
## WORK PACKAGE SPOTLIGHT

### Work Package 1: Hospital Studies

**Work Package 1** deals with the organisation and management of the main part of the REVERSE project, a **multi-centre, stepped-wedge, cluster-randomised clinical trial** on the effectiveness of **microbiology and diagnostic stewardship, infection prevention and control programmes, and antibiotic stewardship**. The clinical trial will sequentially roll out the defined intervention programmes to **24 participating acute care hospitals in Greece, Italy, Romania and Spain** over a period of 39 months, with a total observation time of 45 months. It will analyse the **primary and secondary outcomes**, and provide data for Work Package 6 for the cost-effectiveness analyses. The surveillance of outcome indicators aims at estimating the **efficacy of the different interventions**, while the surveillance of process indicators aims at estimating the **compliance with the various elements of the multifaceted interventions** and testing if the measured change of outcomes is due to specific interventions.

After a baseline of 6 months starting in **March 2022**, 6 participating hospitals will be randomised to start with the first programme until all 24 hospitals have started the intervention 9 months later.

To learn more about and to stay up-to-date with new developments in Work Package 1, check out the **REVERSE website**.



## REVERSE officially kicked-off

The EU-funded project **REVERSE** kicked-off officially on 1 July 2021. The project will run for 5 years and has a total budget of around 14 M€. The **kick-off meeting** was conducted on 17 September 2021 as a hybrid meeting in Geneva (Switzerland) after ICPIIC 2021 - You can find the presentations from this meeting [here](#).

The first six project months focussed on project planning and administrative tasks, the hospital recruitment and setting up the management bodies and main dissemination tools. A total of **12 deliverables** have been submitted to the European Commission in the first months of the project, with many more to follow over the next months and years. All public deliverables can be downloaded [here](#).

## REVERSE Webinar conducted on 25 November 2021

The **REVERSE Webinar on *Prevention and management tools for reducing antibiotic resistance in high prevalence settings*** was conducted online on 25 November 2021. The webinar provided information on the relevance to reverse antimicrobial resistance, first success stories and information on the foreseen work in REVERSE. Presenters were **Professor Marc Struelens (Université Libre de Bruxelles)**, **Professor Yehuda Carmeli (Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center)** and **PD Dr Walter Zingg (University of Zurich)**. A total of **83 people from 25 countries** in four continents joined the webinar.



The flyer and deliverable for this webinar can be found [here](#). The recording of the webinar can be accessed [here](#).

## Media coverage of REVERSE

As one of the independent partner projects in the research portfolio of the **European Clinical Research Alliance on Infectious Diseases (ECRAID)**, there is a strong connection and collaboration between REVERSE and ECRAID and other networks coordinated by the **University Medical Center Utrecht** in the Netherlands, including **COMBACTE (Combating Bacterial Resistance in Europe)**. The team in Utrecht is also supporting the scientific and management work in the REVERSE project.

COMBACTE reported on the official kick-off of REVERSE with a **news article on its website** and Social Media channels. An **interview with REVERSE Coordinator PD Dr Walter Zingg** was published on the COMBACTE website in October 2021. The quest of Dr Sascha Serno from Geology to the field of Infectious Diseases as the REVERSE Administrative Project Manager based at the University of Zurich was described in a **news article by COMBACTE** in November 2021. REVERSE Scientific Project Manager Dr Ashlesha Sonpar was interviewed by the COMBACTE team on her work in REVERSE in January 2022, published [here](#).

More REVERSE news can be found on the **REVERSE website** in the *Dissemination* section.

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