

Dear VascAgeNet Participants, here is the latest update on the status and all ongoing activities of our COST Action VascAgeNet.

### First Working Group meeting 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> of February

From Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> of February 2020, the successful first Working Group Meeting was held at Paris Cardiovascular Research Center (PARCC) in Paris. The three-day meeting was an excellent chance for interdisciplinary and intersectional discussions bringing together industry, clinical expertise, basic research and engineering to join forces to push the concept of vascular ageing. 62 researchers and industrial representatives from 22 countries participated in the plenary sessions, workshop sessions and social activities.



Management committee and Working Group members in Paris. Those in the picture have given their consent for publication by being in the photo.

### Still time to join a Working Group!

It is not too late to join a WG. Please contact the WG leader if you wish to participate.

### Working Group Updates

#### **WG1- Dynamic Exchange**

ITC and STMS grants rules have been decided. An application form for new participants is online on the website. A template to announce ideas for grant proposals is being finalized and will be available on the SharePoint. Information on how to apply for grants is being developed. Please communicate all activities from other WGs with WG1.

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#### **WG2-Physiological and Technical Background**

6 Task Leaders (2 per task) have been appointed (mechanisms, modelling and translation from bench to bedside). 3 draft papers are underway with the aim to work with other WGs by using mathematical modelling to bridge the gap between basic science and clinical findings.

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**WG3-Technological aspects**

6 subgroups have been created, one for each current available technology. Consensus document regarding the main technological approaches available for vascular ageing assessment is being drafted.

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**WG4- Data and Studies**

3 task groups. Task 1: Systematic review and meta-analysis Task 2: Clinical validation of techniques and Task 3: Registry-based clinical trial. Plans for the registry to be set-up ASAP are underway with future plans to provide new reference values and consensus documents.

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**WG5- Dissemination and education**

5 subgroups have been created. Educational material (documents for clinicians, webinars), training school (program for first event at Nancy), one day seminars, communication (website and social media strategy) and public engagement (survey- see below). Gold standard documentation for everyone to use are in development.

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**Vascular Ageing Survey for all to complete and promote**

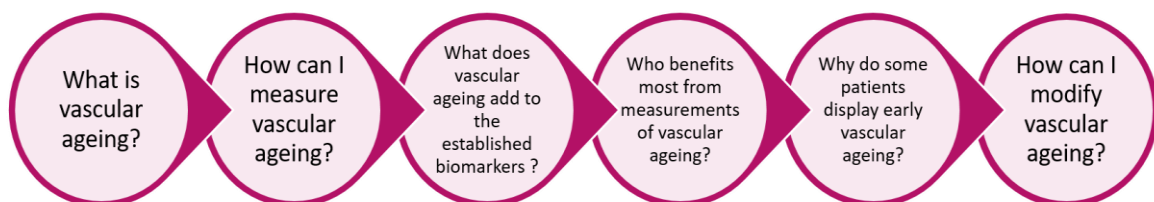
The public engagement group need your help! They have developed a short survey to find out what people really know about vascular ageing. The survey will be used at the forthcoming ISH-EHS meeting, Glasgow. But we also need **ALL VascAgeNet** participants to promote the survey locally in your own country. More details to come. Contact WG5 for more information.

**Website and Social Media**

The new website is now fully up and running and can be found at [www.vascagenet.eu](http://www.vascagenet.eu)  
 REMINDER: Please remember to pass on the details of our successful meeting in Paris to your local media outlets and to forward any communication to [milicavukicevicmd@gmail.com](mailto:milicavukicevicmd@gmail.com) or [chloe.park@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:chloe.park@ucl.ac.uk)

**State of the Art Paper**

A paper will be published on the Action’s 6 key questions. All members of the network are welcome to be involved in contributing to the writing of each section. Each question will have a leading author to contact. More details to come.



### Authorship Policy

For your information: If you contribute to the writing of a paper from the COST Action, you will be a named author. If you critically review it, you will be listed in the 'AND vascagenet'. Details of the authorship policy can be found on the Sharepoint.

### Official VascAgeNet Slide

Official VascAgeNet Slides will be available soon for all to use at any future presentations where you wish to promote the COST Action. More details to come.

### New Contacts

As mentioned in the WG1 update, there is now a form on the website that all new contacts must fill in.

Thank you all for making the first meeting such a success.

As always, if there are any questions, do not hesitate to contact us! Best wishes,  
Rachel, Chloe, Milica and the Core Group