



RENALTRACT

Horizon 2020 – Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
Innovative Training Network (ITN)
Development and Disease of the Renal Tract

2017

RENALTRACT Newsletter 8

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September 2017

➤ Editorial

RENALTRACT is starting its second part

After the European Commission reviewed all elements provided by the Project Management Team and all partners involved in the project, **RENALTRACT project begins its second part**. It will see Early Stage Researchers working on the last part of their PhDs and the training programme, especially our last event, RENALTRACT International Symposium, to take place in Manchester on 12 and 13 April 2018. We are very much looking forward to it!





➤ Latest updates

RENALTRACT International Symposium on its way!



RENALTRACT International symposium under organisation of the 12 Early Stage Researchers at the Royal Northern College of Music, University of the Manchester (UK) from 12 to 13 April 2018, looks very promising! Already 19 International, European and local high-level speakers accepted the invitation to intervene in this symposium, which will be entitled “**International conference on Developmental Nephrology and Future Therapiess**”. Several sessions will take place at the Concert Hall and will see multiple exchange of views on the subject during these two days. Official website is under construction and will be opened in the next few weeks. Of course, we will keep you informed about latest news!

➤ Events

RENALTRACT Short-Course 2 “Science values and research responsibilities” – Bidart, France – 12 to 16 June 2017 – previous event

RENALTRACT second Short-Course on the theme “Science values and research responsibilities” was organised by RENALTRACT Partner Organisation *L’Atelier des Jours à Venir* last June in Bidart, South West France. A large focus has been made on responsibilities towards research, and specifically on helping ESRs to become active and responsible members of the research



communities. Graphical abstracts creation was very much appreciated among RENALTRACT students and constitutes a tool that can be implemented immediately in their work.

UK Nephrology Workshop – Manchester, UK – 11 April 2018 – forthcoming event

Back-to-back with RENALTRACT International Symposium, Early Stage Researchers will be invited to attend the UK Nephrology Workshop organised in Manchester on 11 April 2018. This event has been taken place for more than 20 years and gather high-level scientists from the field.

➤ Scientific views

Pauli TIKKA – ESR 8 – University-Hospital of Heidelberg



“It is not easy to make complex mathematical models. It requires patience and sometimes heavy concentration on details oblivious to a lesser connoisseur. One encounters complex calculations and partly manual programming when studying early nephron formation processes with CompuCell3D program. Stochastic partial differential equations, Monte Carlo simulations, and python programming are not just walking in the park in these settings. Though, the elucidation of the process has happened quite well in this way so far.

Consequently, my work procedures seem to be quite clear for the time being. Despite, in the early phases of my studies I had to do a lot of literature and other important research, I have found my target process and research approach. During those early phases all was mixed with travels and other nice public activities. It would have been quite lot easier to just jump in to a ready given topic and method, both well-known already from my previous studies. However, I can see more obvious scientific and personal growth by tackling new things. In the beginning of August 2017, I went to Indiana University (US) to learn more about CompuCell3D program. I have truly enjoyed the workshop, and it helped me quite a lot. I also noticed that it is easier for me to make practical progress and cooperation in a laboratory dedicated to the accurate research matters. This kind of advancement may then correlate to the amount of specific articles, and yes, also to the possibilities to do science after the PhD degree. At least this was the case at US in the old good times.”