

# MINE PROJECT – Mesothelioma Information Network in Europe

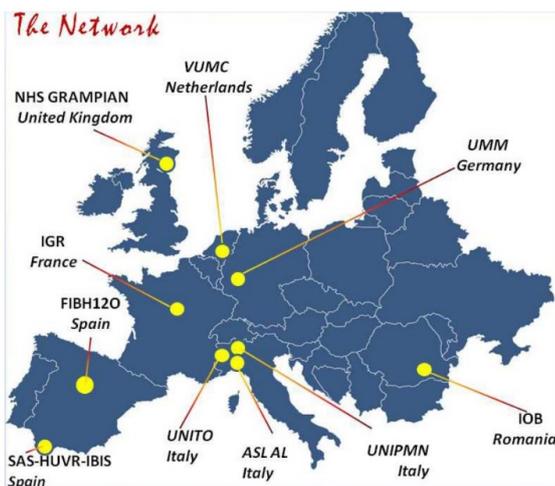
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## Objectives

MINE (Mesothelioma Information Network in Europe) is a European project funded by CHAFEA (Consumer, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency). It includes a partnership of 9 institutions from Italy, France, Germany, Romania, Spain, The Netherlands and United Kingdom. The project aims to contribute to the advancement of current knowledge and to the harmonization of diagnostic and therapeutic processes for MPM and to increase awareness of risks in target populations. MINE will analyze the state of the art of the guidelines for MPM diagnosis and therapy and promote the development and harmonization of MM registries and tissue banks and foster the cooperation among clinical centres so to provide homogeneous statistics and specific guidelines. The advancement of those objectives will be pursued, through the realization of a European network of MPM centres, along three lines: a) update and dissemination of guidelines; b) information and facilitation of the participation in clinical trials, and c) availability of biological material for preclinical research on MM. MINE will generate user-friendly educational and informative materials to be posted on a dedicated website, made available at large and to be disseminated through primary care physicians and advocacy groups to target groups subjects in the areas of higher relevance.

<http://www.euprojectmine.eu/>



## Methods

The project include surveys of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures in selected centres on clinical, radiological, pathological and epidemiological procedures for MPM. Evidence based guidelines on diagnosis and therapy of MPM are being prepared following state of the art methodology. Analysis of the activity of General cancer registries and MM registries and their interaction with clinical centres and tissue banks will be reviewed. A systematic mapping of the existing biological tissue banks for MM is pursued with a survey of pathology units. The project will create and disseminate a report describing the current diagnostic treatment procedures for MPM in Europe with a focus on the major needs for harmonized development of clinical and epidemiological resources for MPM in EU, including tissue bank guidelines. The work will also focus on awareness of asbestos related risks and the importance on health surveillance.

## Results

Results are presented in the MINE website (<http://www.euprojectmine.eu/>).

**Analyses completed so far include the survey of Cancer Registries activity on MM: it showed that general cancer registries do not carry on specific activities on MM, neither for the identification, diagnosis and classification nor for the information of MM cases of asbestos exposure and of their rights to compensation.**

The project is also preparing a report describing the current diagnostic treatment procedures for MPM in sampled centres in EU, with a focus on the major clinical and epidemiological needs for MPM in Eastern Europe.

## Conclusion

The MINE project activities are in progress. The project designed and disseminated the surveys, data have been collected and results are currently analyzed.

This analysis will provide the bases on which the future steps will be built, in particular on understanding the differences among European centres in diagnosis, treatment, registration and collection of samples. Results will help the consortium to creating harmonized and updated guidelines on clinical, biobanking and epidemiological activities and it will help in providing the landscape of the MPM in European countries.