

# Best Information through Regional Outcomes in Diabetes



**Best Information through Regional Outcomes**

[www.biro-project.eu](http://www.biro-project.eu)

**A European Public Health Project  
DG Health and Consumer Protection**

Health Information Strand  
December 2005 / November 2008

## About B.I.R.O.

"Best Information through Regional Outcomes" (B.I.R.O.) is a three year public health project in diabetes that started on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2005 and is sponsored by the European Commission Health Information Strand (DG-SANCO).

The Consortium includes seven partners from academic and governmental institutions sharing extensive experience in diabetes research and chronic care management and a genuine enthusiasm for European health policy.

B.I.R.O. is a European project in the area of public health designed to provide European health systems with an ad hoc, evidence and population-based information system for diabetes health care reporting.

## Our Mission

Our mission is to provide strategic information aimed at supporting the coordinated prevention, integrated care and outcomes management of diabetes across Europe.

## Objectives

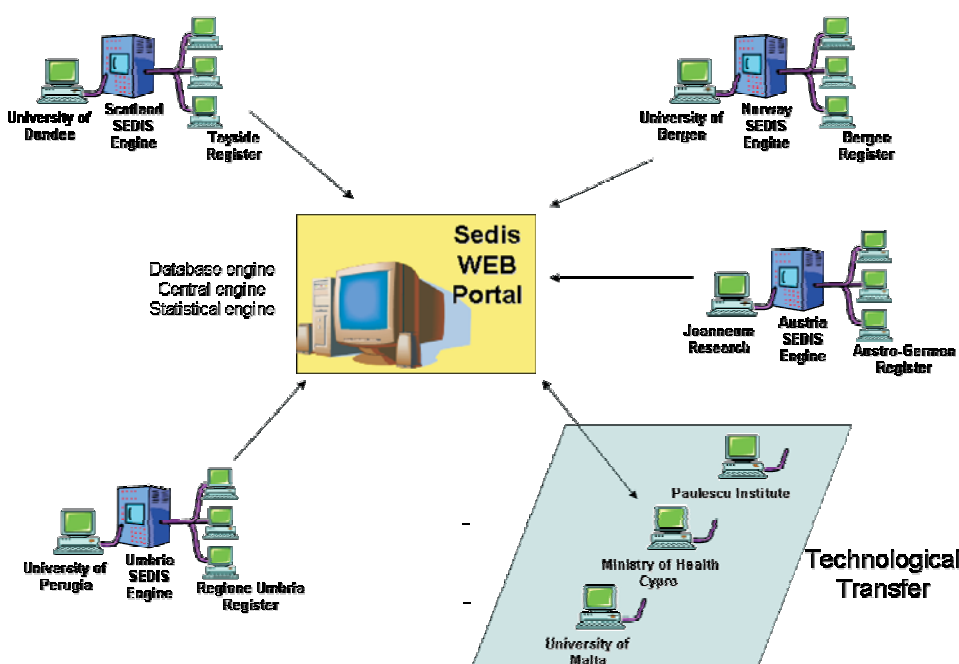
The main objective is to build a European infrastructure for standardized data exchange to regularly monitor, update and disseminate evidence on the application and clinical effectiveness of best practice guidelines in diabetes care.

To fulfill the main objective, we propose a process based on the following rationale:

- ◆ A systems approach meant to make best use of different sources of information
- ◆ An efficient use of existing resources, using systems in place at the regional level
- ◆ Implementation of technical solutions to build comprehensive reports on a range of outcomes

## How B.I.R.O. aims to achieve its objectives

The B.I.R.O. Consortium will develop a shared European Diabetes Information System (SEDIS) that will produce diabetes health reports generated automatically from a common dataset used by participating regions. SEDIS will be designed to be secure, cost-effective, expandable, and highly sustainable. It will be based on the continuous transmission and exchange of standardized statistical tables directly extracted from population-based regional registers. The system will conform with the highest data quality and privacy protection standards, ensuring that only validated data is used and safely exchanged. A broad range of agreed evidence-based indicators will be automatically generated through advanced statistical methods that will take into account the different case-mix of diabetic patients and health care organizations across regions.



Overall estimates will be based on the application of meta-analytical techniques as in the case of multiple observational studies. The system will embed a common dictionary of medical and statistical concepts that will be used in the analysis and interpretation of diabetes data. Report templates will be produced to link results to the European Public Health Portal, so that diabetes health indicators will be automatically generated and published according to the most recent format. Throughout the collaboration, a specific technology transfer activity will explore obstacles, risks and opportunities of the dissemination of the proposed approach in regions where no established diabetes register currently exists. Major experts will be engaged in the role of independent evaluators.

## Deliverables

These include:

- ♦ a clinical review for the selection of agreed indicators
- ♦ a common EU dataset and a data dictionary
- ♦ a privacy impact assessment
- ♦ a specialized set of database, statistical and communication software
- ♦ a technology transfer report
- ♦ publications and dissemination activities

Watch the B.I.R.O. website for the most recent updates, our newsletter and links to other major EU projects in the field. We invite you to join the B.I.R.O. discussion forum, a modern way through which we can all share in the construction of this novel information platform. Completion of the project is expected by November 2008.

# The Project Consortium



## University of Perugia

Department of Internal Medicine  
Perugia, Italy

[www.unipg.it](http://www.unipg.it)

Scientific and Financial Coordinator



## University of Dundee

Division of Medicine & Therapeutics,  
Ninewells Hospital, Dundee, Scotland,  
United Kingdom

[www.dundee.ac.uk](http://www.dundee.ac.uk)



## Joanneum Research

Institute of Medical Technologies and  
Health Management,  
Graz Austria

[www.joanneum.at](http://www.joanneum.at)



## University of Bergen

Department of Medicine,  
Stavanger University Hospital,  
Stavanger, Norway

[www.uib.no](http://www.uib.no)



## Institute of Diabetes, Nutrition and Metabolic disease "Prof. N. Paulescu"

Telemedicine centre  
Bucarest, Romania



## University of Malta

Department of Medicine, Medical School,  
G' Mangia, Malta

[www.um.edu.mt](http://www.um.edu.mt)



## Ministry of Health Republic of Cyprus

Department of Health Promotion,  
Nicosia, Cyprus

[www.moh.gov.cy](http://www.moh.gov.cy)

## Supporting institutions:



Norwegian  
Diabetes Registry



Umbria Region  
Health Care  
Department



Norwegian Centre for Quality  
Improvement in Primary Health  
Care (NOKLUS)

## B.I.R.O. Coordination Centre

Prof. Massimo Massi Benedetti

Department of Internal Medicine, University of Perugia

Via E. Dal Pozzo, 06126 Perugia, Italy

tel/fax +39 075 5727627

e-mail [biroeu@unipg.it](mailto:biroeu@unipg.it)