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Welcome to the latest issue of the FRAIOMIC newsletter!

Please read on and enjoy hearing about all the recent developments for this project. Please do keep us informed of any news that you would like to share with all our FRAIOMIC colleagues in the next newsletter. If you would like to write a short article for the newsletters please email us with details. We would be more than happy to help you with anything you may need to prepare it.

A review of the recent FRAIOMIC Annual Meeting, held in Mallorca on 3-4 November 2014, will be presented in FRAIOMIC newsletter 4, which will be disseminated early in the new year.

New Team Members

There have been a few changes to the FRAILOMIC team recently. Following the sad departure of Magali González-Colaço Harmand, who has been an amazing member of the team, Mónica Ballesteros has taken over the role of FRAILOMIC project manager. I am sure you will all join me in welcoming Mónica to the team. In addition, Anna Durrance-Bagale from Niche Science & Technology has replaced Severina Moreira as the communications project manager.

Mónica Ballesteros

Mónica Ballesteros is a clinical epidemiologist and candidate of PhD in Public Health at Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.

She co-ordinated the Clinical Research Unit at Nacional Cancer Institute in Colombia. She has knowledge of, and is experienced in, epidemiological research.

Mónica can be contacted on frailomicproject@gmail.com



Anna Durrance-Bagale

Anna Durrance-Bagale, House Editor at Niche Science and Technology, has been with the company for 10 years. A highly experienced regulatory writer and editor with a background in neuroscience, Anna has written and edited hundreds of regulatory and other documents over the years for various pharmaceutical companies. Anna is also responsible for mentoring new members of staff at Niche, and runs writing and editing workshops for clients. In her spare time Anna runs a small fairtrade craft business and is an enthusiastic traveller, visiting places as far flung as Nepal, Iran and Kyrgyzstan.



Preparing an abstract

Please let Anna know every time you prepare an abstract, poster or oral presentation for a conference. As Niche is serving as a repository for all publications you can also contact Anna to obtain information on what the other partners have presented.

Anna is happy to be contacted by email at anna.durrance@niche.org.uk or phone on +44 (0)20 8332 2588

Member Awards

Dr Matthias Hackl of Evercyte GmbH shared some exciting news with us at the recent FRAIOMIC meeting in Mallorca.

If you have won any awards recently please let us know and we will communicate this news to the whole team.



Mercur Innovation Award

The Economic Chamber (WK) of Vienna presents the annual Mercur Innovation Award to innovative companies.

This year the innovation award in the category 'Life Science' went to Evercyte. With its innovative concept of standardisable human 3D tissue cultures Evercyte beat off competition from 150 companies to win the prize.

Human cell cultures are one of the most important tools in biomedical research and development. Evercyte produces artificial human cell cultures from different tissues and various donors in high quantity and outstanding quality.

With a focus on the development of 3D tissue cultures Evercyte is currently developing specialised skin and liver models that resemble the *in vivo* situation.

Member Awards

American Society for Bone and Mineral Research Young Investigator Award



American Society for Bone and Mineral Research awards Young Investigator Award to Matthias Hackl.

The ASBMR awarded the Young Investigator prize to Dr Matthias Hackl, scientific advisor to Evercyte, for his presentation on "Circulating microRNAs as novel diagnostic targets for osteoporosis" during the annual meeting held in Houston from 12–15 September 2014.

These data describe the latest work of Evercyte in the field of biomarker development, which aims to demonstrate the clinical utility of blood-circulating microRNAs as novel biomarker candidates for ageing and age-associated diseases. In their work Dr Hackl and Professor Johannes Grillari together with their team demonstrated that patients suffering from severe hip fractures exhibit unique

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Research Poster Award

microRNA patterns in their blood, which are causally related to an altered bone metabolism. This finding may facilitate the development of novel diagnostic tests, which help to diagnose fracture risk early so that therapeutic intervention can be effectively applied.

In addition the posters presented by Professor Grillari (Chief Scientific Officer), and Dr Ursula Heilmeyer and Dr Thomas Link (clinical collaborators from University of California San Francisco) were honoured as plenary posters among the top 5% of submitted abstracts.

Dr Hackl also gave an update on a recent Evercyte publication: 'The role

of microRNAs in cellular senescence and age-related conditions of cartilage and bone', authored by Sylvia Weilner, Regina Grillari-Voglauer, Heinz Redl, Johannes Grillari and Thomas Nau, which was published in September in the journal Acta Orthopaedica.

You can access the entire publication here:
<http://informahealthcare.com/doi/abs/10.3109/17453674.2014.957079>

Publications Update

The first review, ““Omics”-based biomarkers to predict risk of frailty and its consequences in older individuals—the FRAILOMIC Initiative’, has been submitted to Gerontology.

At the FRAILOMIC annual meeting it was decided that reviews 2 and 3 that had previously been discussed and agreed on would be collated into one review. This review is being progressed currently.

Medical writing editorial assistance has also been provided by Niche Science & Technology for Dr Jose Viña’s manuscript ‘mRNA analysis in centenarians reveals specific patterns associated with control of apoptosis and cellular senescence’.

As part of the Lancet’s recent Series on Ageing, Professor Leocadio Rodriguez-

Mañas, in association with Linda P Fried, published an article entitled ‘Frailty in the clinical scenario’ in early November. Also in this series is an article co-authored by Dr Somnath Chatterji: ‘Health in an ageing world – what do we know?’ These articles can be accessed here: <http://www.thelancet.com/series/ageing>

This will help increase awareness of the FRAILOMIC project in the wider community, so please do let us know of any publications in which you mention FRAILOMIC and we will include them here.

Please do keep us updated with any publications that might be of interest to other members of the consortium and we will include information in the next issue of the FRAILOMIC newsletter.