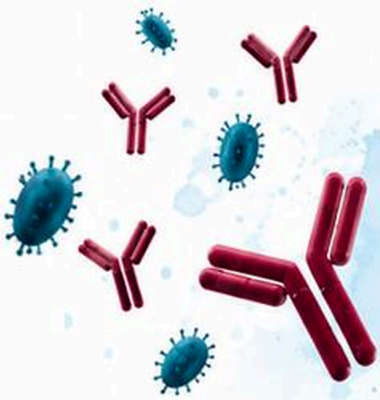
Beyond antibiotics: DITRAP is investigating a new defence against ICU infections

Innovative treatment and an artificial intelligence-based tool seek to protect critically ill patients from life-threatening bacterial infections



A new European research initiative, DITRAP, launching on September 1st has secured €8.9 million in funding to develop a novel strategy for preventing infections in intensive care units (ICUs). Coordinated by REMAB Therapeutics SL, the four-year project brings together five partners from Spain, Finland, the Netherlands and Belgium to advance a first-in-class therapeutic approach that could help reduce infections, antibiotic use and healthcare costs across Europe.

Addressing a growing healthcare challenge

Healthcare-associated infections remain one of the most serious complications affecting patients in intensive care. Critically ill patients are particularly vulnerable to bacterial infections, while the rise of antimicrobial resistance is making these infections increasingly difficult to treat. Current approaches rely heavily on antibiotics, yet growing resistance to last-line treatments threatens their effectiveness. New preventive strategies are urgently needed to protect patients and reduce the burden on healthcare systems.

As coordinator of DITRAP, RemAb Therapeutics is committed to advancing RA0127 towards a novel therapeutic option for preventing serious infections in critically ill patients. DITRAP represents a major milestone in our mission to translate our antibody-removal technology into meaningful clinical benefits, while validating a new therapeutic approach with the potential to improve outcomes in intensive care and beyond.

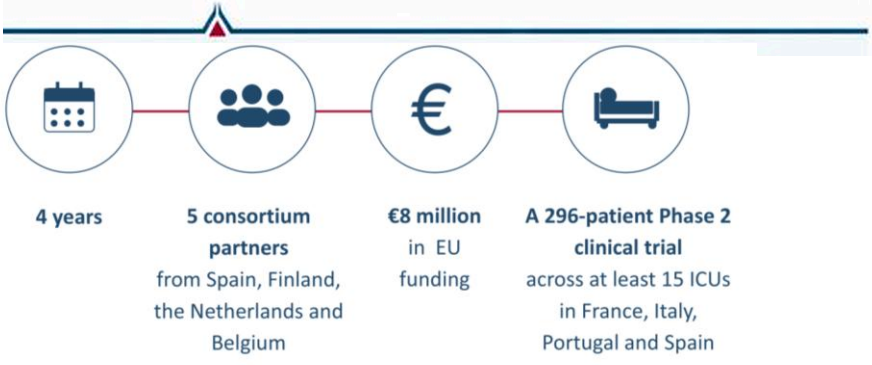
Rafael Máñez M.D., Ph.D. (Project Coordinator)
President and CMO RemAb Therapeutics SL

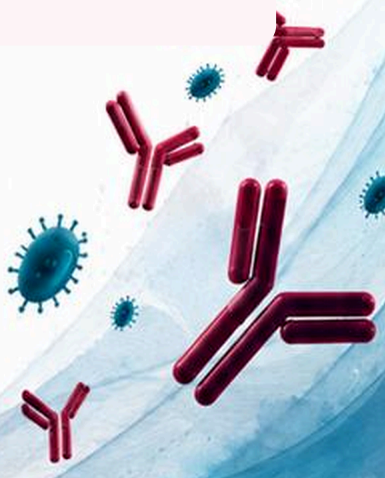
A new approach to preventing infection

DITRAP will advance RA0127, a soluble glycopolymer designed to remove naturally occurring anti-αGal antibodies that may interfere with the body's ability to clear Gram-negative bacteria. Rather than attacking bacteria directly, RA0127 aims to strengthen the body's natural immune response, helping patients defend themselves against infection before it takes hold. Following encouraging Phase 1 results, the project will evaluate the therapy in a Phase 2 clinical trial involving 296 adult patients across more than 15 intensive care units in France, Italy, Portugal and Spain.

Participating in DITRAP is a natural continuation of ADKNOMA's collaboration with RemAb Therapeutics following our joint Phase 1 clinical trial. We look forward to contributing our team's expertise and exchanging knowledge with leading international scientific societies, helping translate scientific innovation into tangible benefits for patients, and laying the foundations for long-term collaboration with the rest of the DITRAP partners.

Carolina Muñoz, Project Manager
ADKNOMA Health Research





Using artificial intelligence to identify patients at risk

Alongside the clinical trial, DITRAP will develop an artificial intelligence-based risk prediction tool capable of identifying, within 48 hours of admission, patients who are most likely to experience prolonged stays in intensive care and face a higher risk of infection. By combining early risk prediction with targeted preventive treatment, the consortium aims to reduce infections, antibiotic consumption, complications, mortality and length of hospital stay.

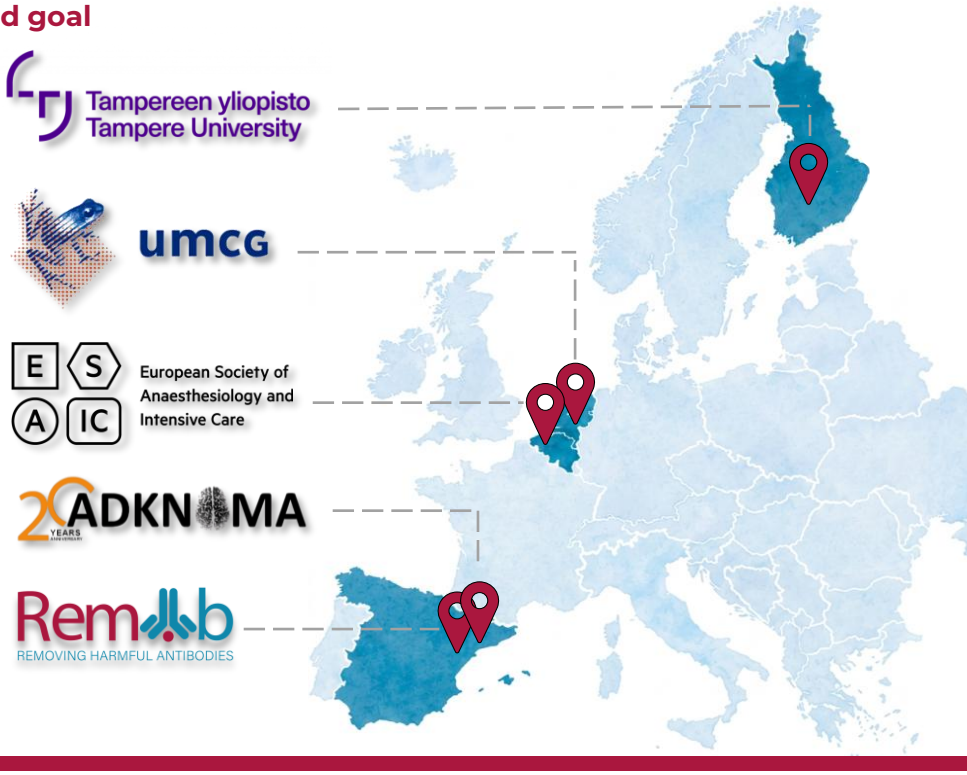
Tampere University joined DITRAP to build on successful collaboration with project partners and contribute its expertise in artificial intelligence for healthcare. Our goal is to develop decision-support tools that help identify ICU patients most likely to benefit from the trial treatment, supporting more effective patient selection. We will also contribute to evaluating treatment efficacy. Through close collaboration with clinicians, we aim to advance state of the art in ICU length-of-stay prediction while ensuring solutions are relevant and feasible in clinical practice .

Alpo Varri, Associate Professor - Research Director
Tampere University

Five partners, one shared goal

DITRAP brings together five partners with complementary expertise in:

- Biotechnology
- Clinical research
- Artificial intelligence
- Health economics
- Intensive care



Get in touch

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Funded by the European Union

Funded by the European Union (GA No. 101277257). Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HADEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.