Annual Report 2024

ecraid

“...we uphold Ecraid’s core academic values, recognising their ongoing significance to our future.”

A year of growth and balance

Reflecting on our progress over 2024, I'm immensely proud of our shared successes and I'd like to highlight two key developments.

First and foremost, Ecraid has firmly established its position within the European infectious disease research field. Governments, academia, and the private sector increasingly recognise us as a relevant and reliable partner. Our participation in prestigious programmes, such as BE READY NOW and CoMeCT, reflects this position. And for the first time, our commercial revenue has surpassed our non-commercial revenue. This marks an important step towards long-term sustainability, as the more favourable margins help us finance our academic ambitions and pandemic preparedness efforts.

Secondly, in 2024, our organisation reached a new level of maturity allowing us to focus on another important goal: contributing to the development of the next generation of researchers. We achieve this by inspiring young individuals to pursue careers in infectious disease research, connecting them with experienced scientists, offering educational activities, and providing access to an international network of peers. In doing so, we uphold Ecraid's core academic values, recognising their ongoing significance to our future.

This third annual report from Ecraid highlights our continued efforts to strike the right balance between our academic aspirations and the financial resources needed to realise them.

Being able to carry out this work alongside a passionate team and dedicated partners is a great privilege.

Marc Bonten
Chief Executive Officer

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An introduction to Ecraid

Ecraid is a not-for-profit organisation focused on reducing the impact of infectious diseases on individual health and on society as a whole. Started in January 2022, Ecraid builds on the legacies of major EU-funded projects that demonstrated the value of collaboration between academia and industry. Ecraid now offers services both for industry- and investigator-driven research on infectious diseases. Several academic centres across Europe collaborate through Ecraid, which is headquartered in the Netherlands.

Full breadth

Ecraid provides the full breadth of clinical studies on infectious diseases: observational studies and interventional studies in different phases. Ecraid does this from the study design to protocol development, site selection, and finally, clinical study report. Ecraid also aims to improve the European scientific response to an infectious outbreak or a pandemic. With its specialised warm-base network, Ecraid can respond to an outbreak more quickly. Ecraid will use any resources to accelerate research in case of an emerging pandemic.

Fast, efficient, high quality

Thanks to its warm-base network, Ecraid can execute trials faster and more efficiently, with a high level of quality. In a warm-base network, sites are used to work with standardised processes and procedures and can start up quickly with well-trained staff. A continuous flow of studies is needed to maintain the warm-base network. Ecraid has multiple studies running with sites – both hospitals and laboratories – participating from its own network (see overview page 17. Ecraid helps less-experienced sites to develop their potential for clinical research, thus expanding the number of experienced sites and augmenting the capabilities of the network to conduct more studies in parallel.

Perpetual basis

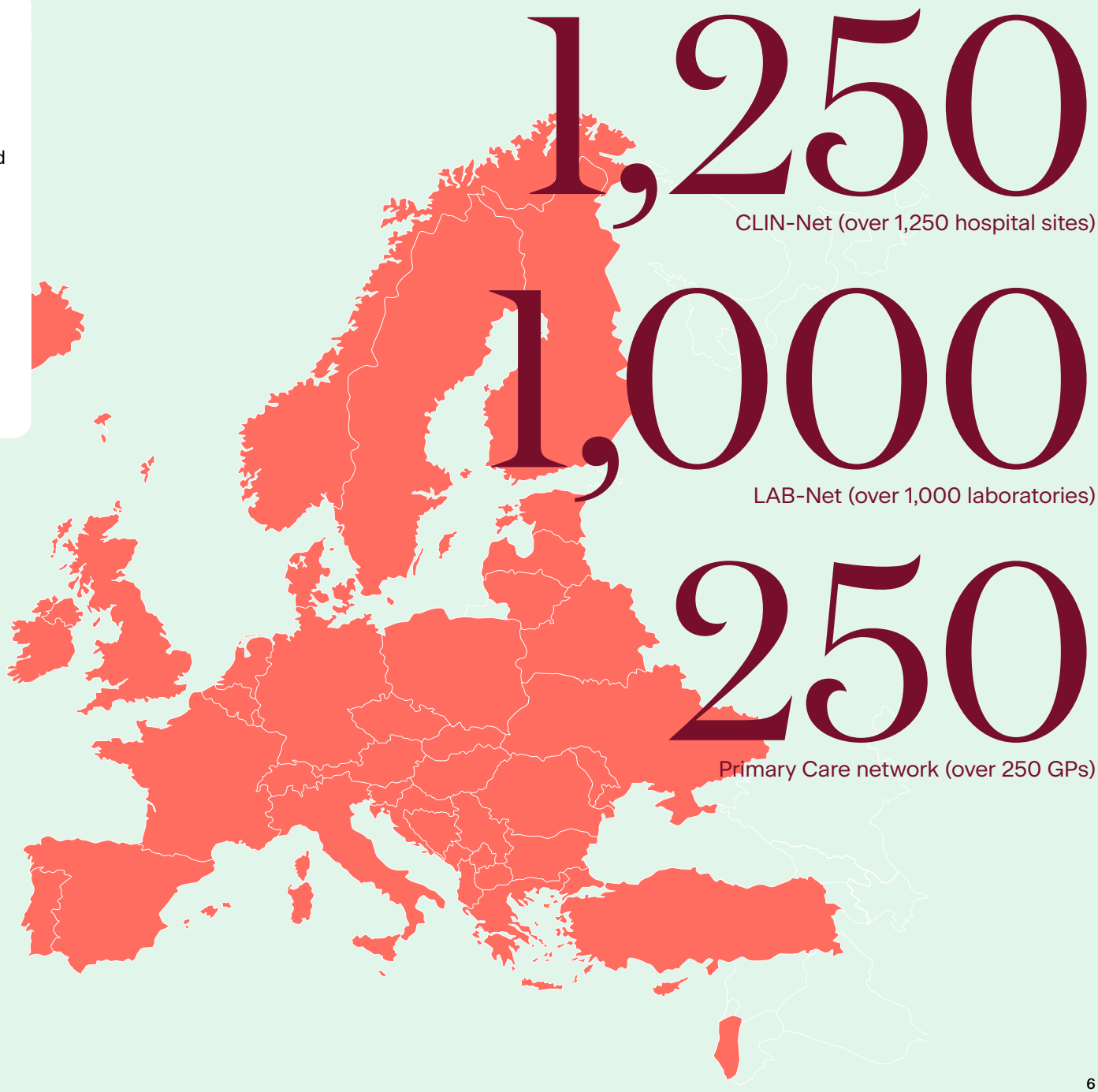
Among the ongoing studies are the perpetual observational studies (POS), which are multicentre observational clinical studies that enroll patients on an ongoing basis. With the present set of POS, data and clinical samples are systematically collected. Partners can make use of these data or plug in their own questions. With their perpetual character, POS enable continuity in clinical research. This also applies to the highly innovative concept of Adaptive Platform Trials, with which Ecraid has gained experience through REMAP-CAP and ECRAID-Prime.

Ecraid is much more than an organisation aimed at carrying out clinical trials. Ecraid is a movement where knowledge of infectious diseases can be shared and new methods of clinical research can be developed together. It is a movement where young talent and experienced experts – from both academia and industry – connect to collaborate and learn.

EPI-Net

Beyond the direct execution of clinical trials, Ecraid plays a crucial role in enhancing European epidemiological understanding and data utilization for infectious disease research. EPI-Net is an essential component within Ecraid and aims to harmonize and connect various European disease surveillance systems by integrating clinical, microbiologic, and public health data. By leveraging its data repository and epidemiological expertise, EPI-Net directly supports Ecraid's clinical research activities, including guiding site selection for new trials and enabling innovative analyses of infectious disease burden.

Ecraid strives to create real Europe-wide coverage of its network, aggregating the potential European academia has to offer in research on infectious diseases. A broad European coverage also gives access to specific populations where the prevalence of a pathogen is high. We also have detailed information on where to find these populations. This targeting shortens the time needed to reach the required number of patients in a trial.



1,250

CLIN-Net (over 1,250 hospital sites)

1,000

LAB-Net (over 1,000 laboratories)

250

Primary Care network (over 250 GPs)

Report from the Management Board – Preparing for a sustainable future

Ecraid's journey began in 2022 with the purpose of reducing the impact of infectious diseases on individual and population health. Within the ECRAID-Base project, we are building a sustainable organisation to strive towards this goal. In anticipation of ECRAID-Base funding ending in 2026, we stepped up our efforts in 2024 to ensure long-term sustainability. We put a lot of effort into professionalising our organisation and initiating new while enhancing existing collaborations. We also started discussing what our organisation will look like after 2026. In doing so, we also focused on maintaining our warm-based network and executing studies, and we invested in education and community building for young and early-career investigators. Financially, we performed well with an increase of 39% in revenue.

Strengthening the organisation

During 2024, we significantly enhanced our internal processes. Notable achievements included the realisation of a Quality System and a Network Management System. We also enhanced our corporate finance and control processes and put a strategic & financial review cycle per project in place. We improved our recruitment processes and training programmes to build a team that can take our organisation further.

Building a sustainable organisation requires careful consideration of how to shape Ecraid into a financially healthy, effective, and sustainable organisation. For this reason, in October 2024, we organised a meeting with the leads of our networks: CLIN-Net, LAB-Net, EPI-Net, STAT-Net, and the associated P3-Net. Together, we looked at our service portfolio and what the relationship between Ecraid and the networks could look like in 2026. We will continue this meaningful discussion in 2025.

Throughout 2024, we strengthened and expanded our Ecraid Clinical Liaison (ECL) Counsel – a committed group of clinical research experts in different countries and regions (end of 2024 27 ECLs). For Ecraid, this group has immense value. The ECLs have access to local networks and have valuable insights about hospitals, regional regulations, and other relevant local topics. This local knowledge broadens the range of hospitals we can use and allows us to rapidly check the feasibility of a trial, meaning we can respond faster and more thoroughly to requests from potential partners.

In the Netherlands, we initiated Ecraid NL, to bring Dutch investigators together, foster strong connections and facilitate increased national collaboration and engagement. Representatives from 11 institutions attended the kick-off meeting in March. We are investigating how we can stimulate and facilitate similar initiatives in other countries.

Balancing public and private funding

Although the revenue for investigator-initiated research increased, the share of commercial revenues increased more: 56% in 2024 against 40% in 2023. We pursue maintenance of a good balance between public and private funding. Collaboration with pharma gives the advantage of contributing to finance the organisation and pandemic preparedness. However, this collaboration with pharma also brings the risk that a study can stop at any time. For this reason, we aim for a conservative financial strategy and a policy of maximum flexibility of our employees, enabling ease of movement between projects as required.

> " ....we intensified our activities in data harmonisation, knowledge sharing, and education"

Growing relevance and collaboration

Ecraid is increasingly recognised as a key European partner in clinical research on infectious diseases and pandemic preparedness. This enhanced visibility has led to some major developments in 2024. Ecraid is now partner in PIPELINE, one of the two new European Commission-funded projects focused on establishing adaptive platform trials. PIPELINE's goal is to establish a warm-base clinical trial network specialising in recruiting pregnant individuals and infants. This specialised focus will undoubtedly strengthen Ecraid's unique capabilities. We have also built a strong relationship with the second adaptive platform – PROACT EU-Response – presenting at their kick-off meeting, and already engaged in fruitful discussions defining areas of collaboration. Ecraid strongly support the European Commission's initiatives to foster research networks, increasing the coverage of different population groups. These efforts are essential to pandemic preparedness, and collaboration with these projects and networks is a fundamental part of our strategy to respond to future pandemics.

One of Ecraid's most significant achievements in 2024 was the contribution as a partner in the successful submission of the BE READY NOW project. This project represents the European Commission's most important coordination mechanism for research, developed in collaboration with leading public health and infectious disease authorities from member states, alongside only a few independent research centres and universities specialised in the field. BE READY NOW is set to start in January 2026.

Studies

A key pillar of Ecraid is executing high-impact studies that contribute to health through proven effective treatments. To this end, we are involved in a wide range of studies (see overview page 17 to 21. Our perpetual observational studies (POS) are important for Ecraid's sustainable future. In 2024, we tripled patient enrolment in our POS-studies, with POS-ARI studies accelerating enormously. Another significant milestone was reached in October 2024 with the first patient inclusion of ECRAID-Prime. After 2 years, the EPOXI-study (aimed at mpox) also started to include patients. For this study, we first had to establish a network of sites specialised in sexually-transmitted infections. These long lead times show how important it is to have relevant warm-based networks in place in case of an emerging pandemic.

Besides investigator-driven studies, Ecraid assists the private sector in executing relevant studies. Examples of companies we worked with in 2024 include GSK, Merck, and Seqirus.

Investing in the next generation

One of Ecraid's goals is to advance the field of clinical research in infectious diseases by fostering the development of less advanced centres. We actively support their growth and facilitate their inclusion in the Ecraid network, ensuring a broader and more robust research ecosystem for the future. For this reason, in 2024, we intensified our activities in data harmonisation, knowledge sharing, and education. We organised a series of webinars about adaptive platform trials, focusing on young and early-career investigators. We believe providing the next generation with equal access to knowledge and a community where they can grow

their expertise, network, and skills is essential. These educational activities also offer our sites and partners opportunities – through grants – to motivate employees and attract new talent. Our Young Investigator Workshop and the Post Graduate Course are examples of how we reach these groups. In 2025, we will start building a community of young and early-career investigators, which also may include young professionals from commercial companies.

Financially

We are pleased with our financial outcome for 2024. Compared to 2023, our revenue increased by 39%. The share of revenue from commercial partners increased and was (for the first time) bigger than the revenue from non-commercial partners (2024: 56% and 44% respectively). We realised a positive result of € 159,670. This was lower compared to 2023 due to a different mix of trials being executed at cost or on a cost-plus basis.

2025 and beyond

In 2025, we will continue our efforts to prepare for a sustainable future into 2026 and beyond. Several large projects will end in 2026 and we have, therefore, increased our business development and marketing efforts to attract private funding. With a newly appointed business developer and marketing manager, the Commercial Team will develop an integrated sales plan and start an intensified market approach.

The volatile economic and (geo)political environment brings uncertainty for 2025. We see that the role and funding for science is under pressure, also in Europe. It is uncertain how American companies will be affected by the Trump administration measures. To mitigate risk, we will aim more for long-term contracts.

As we look ahead, we are confident that our strategic growth and robust financial sustainability will enable us to continue driving impactful clinical research for years to come.

Marc Bonten, CEO
Evelina Tacconelli, CSO
Nils Visser, COO

Purpose, mission and strategy

Purpose

Together, we strive to reduce the impact of infectious diseases on individual and population health.

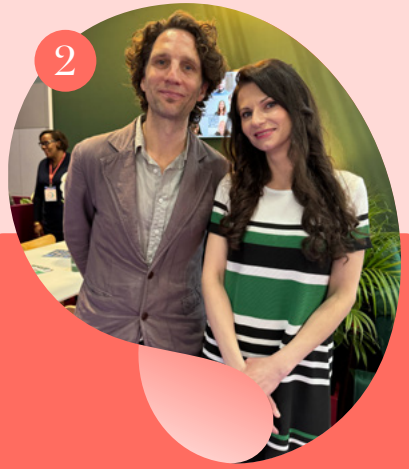
Mission

Joining forces to collaborate and efficiently deliver high-impact studies.

Strategy

Great People

We foster an inclusive, people-centred culture, built on trust, and accountability where talent flourishes. We create a great work environment.



Collaboration & Community Building

We work closely with our network, partners, and academic institutions to advance clinical research. We are engaged with the broader community to raise awareness on infectious diseases.

Academic Excellence & Education

We are dedicated to sharing knowledge, educating and, training researchers and clinical trial staff in the field of infectious diseases.

Conducting High-Impact Studies

We are committed to delivering high-quality research with rigorous quality assurance, high operational efficiency and, scientific integrity.

“I notice an increasing interest from other parts of the world to adopt the Ecraid model.”

Peter Horby Director, Pandemic Sciences Institute University of Oxford and member Ecraid Coordinating Committee

“I work outside of Europe a lot, including in Africa where I am a coordinator for the African Coalition for Epidemic Research Response and Training. With my African colleagues, we are now concentrating on how we can strengthen the clinical trial infrastructure through multi-country and high-quality sustainable clinical research networks. For this, we look at Ecraid as a possible model. I notice an increasing interest from other parts of the world to adopt the Ecraid model too.

What makes Ecraid interesting is that it is an investigator-led network, building a financially sustainable organisation through a combination of investigator-led and commercial studies. Colleagues are watching closely the viability of this model. The challenge for Ecraid, in my opinion, is to balance commercial studies and investigator-led studies at a scale and cost price that is both attractive to companies and generates enough revenue to sustain the Ecraid network and its coordinating HQ. Though the outlook for Ecraid is very promising, I think it is still too early to pronounce on the sustainability of this model, particularly in the current volatile economic and political climate. Beyond financial sustainability, financial head-room is critical because it is the foundation for Ecraid’s warm-base network and the coordinating HQ. This is needed to be prepared for health emergencies, which is one of the main reasons the European Commission funded Ecraid: improving the EU response to health emergencies, like the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a member of the Ecraid Coordinating Committee, the ‘preparedness’ goal is of particular personal interest to me. Being prepared for emerging health threats demands that all procedures and mechanisms are in place, fully understood, and fully operational, so that Ecraid can mobilise in days, not weeks or months. Another personal interest is that I want Ecraid to focus not only on new interventions but also on optimisation and repurposing. Improving health does not necessarily mean new products, it can also mean better use of existing products. Ecraid is well placed to contribute to this.”

Highlights

January

Start online six-part training course Adaptive Clinical Trial Designs

February

Start RECLAIM trial on Post-COVID treatments

14 February
Practical webinar about new Sample Collection and Manage-ment Manual POS-cUTI

22 February
Ecraid joins kick-off meeting CoMeCT

March

5 March
Kick-off meeting Ecraid NL

April

10 April
Webinar on complicated urinary tract infections

27-30 April
ESCMID Global 2024, Barcelona

CSO Evelina Tacconelli receives ESCMID Lifetime achievement Award

28 April
Young Investigator Workshop, Barcelona.

First patients enrolled POS-Disease X

May

27 May
General Assembly ECRAID-Prime, Budapest

27-28 May
General Assembly ECRAID-Base, Budapest

June

3 June
Regulatory approval EPOXI trial (first patient enrolled in August)

Ecraid joins NeoDeco

First ECL Council Chair (Oana Sāndulescu) and Co-Chair (Pontus Naucler) elected

September

29 September
EPI-Net paper on blood infections by fungi of the Candida genus

October

First patient enrolled in ECRAID-Prime

Article published on tracking candidemia trends and antifungal resistance patterns across Europe

22-24 October
Ecraid Post Graduate Course, Belgrade

December

10 December
Announce-ment start PIPELINE project

Pro-active Business Development aims for sustainability

We believe that research flourishes when academia and industry join forces. Our earnings are strategically reinvested into investigator-initiated research initiatives, enabling rapid responses to emerging health threats, including pandemics. This sustainable model not only drives innovation but also ensures that our work continues to benefit global public health. Business Development is our department that explores the industrial landscape for new business.

Ecraid has a unique position in the market. Among its most compelling advantages are the ability to provide direct access to key academic opinion leaders specialized in infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance, and the ability to connect directly with multiple high-quality clinical trial networks for acute infections. This access enables pharmaceutical companies to engage with leading experts who shape future treatment and prevention strategies, fostering the development of more effective solutions to pressing health challenges

Intensified efforts

In 2024, our Business Development team intensified efforts to promote Ecraid's unique services. Working closely with Corporate Communications, we developed a comprehensive set of promotional materials. Active participation in major industry events, such as the ESCMID Global 2024, proved instrumental in expanding our reach. These engagements significantly boosted our visibility, leading to an increase in requests for proposals, demonstrating the growing interest in our capabilities from both pharmaceutical companies and clinical contract research organizations (CROs).

Engagement strategy

Our engagement strategy — comprising introduction meetings with pharmaceutical companies and CROs at both national and international levels — has yielded significant results. Pharmaceutical firms, particularly, are keen on accessing data from targeted populations to optimize product positioning, while CROs seek high–quality investigator sites for clinical trials. Additionally, small and medium-sized biotech companies frequently turn to Ecraid for expert guidance in study design and regulatory submissions, underscoring Ecraid's growing role as a trusted partner in clinical research.

Growing recognition

We see that we are increasingly recognized in the market, thanks in part to our distinctive branding, which has made it easier to start conversations with potential partners. For our initial clients, it's has now become easier to engage in follow-up and collaborations, reflecting a growing trust and satisfaction with our services. The share of private funded studies increased from 40% to 56%.

Actions 2025

With the growth of Ecraid as organization, securing private funding has become more important, prompting a more proactive market approach. In response, we started the recruitment of a new Business Developer and Marketing Manager in 2024. Both were hired end of the year and will deliver a sales plan and concrete actions in 2025 to strengthen our commercial strategy.

Advancing vaccine development

To further strengthen public-private partnerships, Ecraid is developing a comprehensive business plan for vaccine trials. This initiative aims to foster collaboration between pharmaceutical and biotech companies, leveraging our robust research network to accelerate vaccine development. By integrating our extensive clinical infrastructure with industry expertise, we aim to streamline trial execution, improve regulatory alignment, and ensure the rapid generation of high-quality data. This strategic approach will ultimately not only support the advancement of vaccines but also enhance global preparedness for future infectious disease threats.

Service portfolio

Coordination and execution of trials

From the design of a trial through to the reporting of the study outcomes. Our experts advise sponsors about the best study design. And our operational team is at their side in all stages of the trial execution and can take care of all coordination tasks.

Site selection

Our CLIN-Net team uses a highly standardised process to streamline site selection and optimise the start-up of new trials. With our site selection process, we help to select those sites that will enable trials to quickly and cost-effectively include the required patients.

Laboratory research and biobanking

With LAB-Net, a network of over 1,000 laboratories, Ecraid can provide state-of-the-art laboratory diagnostic and research services, closely linked with and supporting its clinical research services.

Epidemiological research

We collect and analyse patient-level and regional data on emerging infectious diseases, including antibiotic resistance. This supports smart site selection for fast patient inclusion.

Statistical analyses

Ecraid can provide both standard and innovative statistical support to improve efficiency and scientific originality of studies.

Pharmaceutical support, pharmacology and pharmacometrics

Services offered by the specialised P3-network.

“Ecraid has an impressive amount of scientific expertise.”

Marianne Bertens Director Clinical Operations Benelux GSK

“I strongly believe that academia and pharmaceutical companies must work together to ensure that better treatments and vaccines become available. Our collaboration with Ecraid demonstrates this belief. Ecraid has an impressive amount of scientific expertise in infectious diseases, as well as a strong focus on conducting and accelerating clinical studies. We have conducted our first study in collaboration with Ecraid in the Netherlands last year. In this study, the expertise and pro-activeness of professor Bonten was very important to us.

In the first study we performed together, we compared an investigational vaccine co-administered with an mRNA vaccine, to administering these vaccines separately. Leading up to this first study, we spent time with the Ecraid team to learn more about each other. I feel this has been very beneficial. What we also experienced as very positive is that Ecraid has insight into the various diversity parameters relevant for clinical trials. They can provide insight from their database on the various populations. What really stood out is how pro-active and eager the team is to ensure the study is well-executed. The Ecraid team is easy to connect with and has a lot of expertise in the operational and scientific field.

I see this first study as the start of a partnership. In the Netherlands, GSK did not perform vaccine studies for many years. Now we are working to expand the vaccine clinical trial footprint here. Our first experience with Ecraid was very positive and for upcoming studies, we aim to increase their contribution in our pediatric and adult vaccine studies, if feasible. There may be other areas to collaborate too. The difference between Ecraid and a CRO stands within their large European network focused on infectious diseases.”

Overview studies

RECOVER/ECRAID-BASE | ECRAID-PRIME | ZonMW

REMAP-CAP

Adaptive platform trial evaluating multiple treatment options in patients admitted to intensive care with severe community-acquired pneumonia

Type: APT
Domain: Community-acquired pneumonia in ICU, including COVID-19
Test subject: Multiple **Pts enrolled:** Global: 14,597, EU: 8,228

HORIZON-HEALTH, ZonMw, NIHR, UMCU | First patient: 2018 | Completion date: Perpetual

ECRAID-Prime

Adaptive platform trial comparing treatments for acute respiratory tract infections in primary care

Type: APT
Domain: Patients with acute respiratory infections in primary care
Test subject: Nitric oxide nasal spray (NONS) **Pts enrolled:** 133

HORIZON-HEALTH | First patient: Oct 2024 | Completion date: Perpetual

RECOVERY

Adaptive platform trial evaluating multiple treatment options in patients admitted to the hospital with pneumonia

Type: APT
Domain: Hosiptalised patients with acute respiratory infections
Test subject: Multiple **Pts enrolled:** 51

University of Oxford | First patient: Mar 2024 | Completion date: Perpetual

SNAP

Adaptive platform trial evaluating multiple treatment and diagnostic options in patients with *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteremia

Type: APT
Domain: *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteremia
Test subject: Multiple **Pts enrolled:** Global: 6,874 EU: 228

UMC Utrecht | First patient: Nov 2024 | Completion date: Dec 2026

POS-VAP

Perpetual observational study to determine incidence and outcome of patients at risk for ventilator-associated pneumonia in European ICUs

Type: Observational
Domain: ICU patients at risk for HAP/VAP
Test subject: None **Pts enrolled:** 4,644

HORIZON-HEALTH | First patient: Aug 2022 | Completion date: Perpetual

POS-ARI-ER

Perpetual observational study to determine etiology and outcome of patients with acute respiratory tract infections in emergency rooms European hospitals

Type: Observational
Domain: Patients with acute respiratory infections in emergency rooms
Test subject: None **Pts enrolled:** 1,945

HORIZON-HEALTH | First patient: Jun 2023 | Completion date: Perpetual

POS-ARI-PC-Audit

Perpetual observational study to determine etiology and outcome of patients with acute respiratory tract infections in primary care settings

Type: Registry
Domain: Patients with acute respiratory infections in primary care
Test subject: None **Pts enrolled:** 6,752

HORIZON-HEALTH | First patient: Nov 2023 | Completion date: Perpetual

POS-ARI-PC-Core

Perpetual observational study to determine etiology and outcome of patients with acute respiratory tract infections in primary care settings

Type: Observational
Domain: Patients with acute respiratory infections in primary care
Test subject: None **Pts enrolled:** 367

HORIZON-HEALTH | First patient: Nov 2023 | Completion date: Perpetual

ECRAID-BASE VACCELERATE MPX-RESPONSE

POS-cUTI

Perpetual observational study to determine etiology and outcome of patients with complicated urinary tract infections in European hospitals

Type: Observational
Domain: Complicated urinary tract infections
Test subject: None **Pts enrolled:** 3,750

HORIZON-HEALTH | First patient: Oct 2022 | Completion date: Perpetual

POS-disX

Perpetual observational study to determine etiology and outcome of immunocompromised patients hospitalised with unexplained febrile illness

Type: Observational
Domain: Immunocompromised hospitalised with unexplained febrile illness
Test subject: None **Pts enrolled:** 17

HORIZON-HEALTH | First patient: Dec 2023 | Completion date: Perpetual

CoVacc

A phase II, comparative randomised trial to evaluate the impact of reduced COVID-19 mRNA vaccination regimens on immunological responses and reactogenicity in paediatric subjects (5-12 years) with and without prior SARS-CoV-2 infection

Type: RCT, Phase II
Domain: Healthy children (5-12 yrs)
Test subject: Tozinameran **Pts enrolled:** 31

HORIZON-HEALTH | First patient: Aug 2022 | Completion date: Nov 2024

EPOXI

A randomised, controlled, double-blinded, placebo-controlled trial evaluating safety and efficacy of tecovirimat, with adaptive design allowing future interventions

Type: RCT
Domain: Monkeypox infections
Test subject: Tecovirimat **Pts enrolled:** 10

HORIZON-HEALTH | First patient: Aug 2024 | Completion date: Aug 2026

NeoIPC

Cluster randomised controlled trial in neonatal intensive care units (NICU) to evalaute effectiveness of kangarooing in preventing infections and improving patient outcome

Type: cRCT
Domain: Neonates in ICU (neonatal intensive care)
Test subject: Kangaroo care **Pts enrolled:** 266

HORIZON-HEALTH | First patient: Apr 2024 | Completion date: Mar 2026

E.Mbrace

A phase III, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled study evaluating safety and efficacy of a 12-valent *E. coli* vaccin to prevent invasive *E. coli* disease in high-risk elderly

Type: RCT/Phase III
Domain: Patients at risk for urinary tract infections
Test subject: *E. coli* vaccin **Pts enrolled:** 382

Janssen R&D | First patient: May 2022 | Completion date: Ongoing

SUNRISE-3

A randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase III trial evaluating bemnifosbuvir for the treatment of COVID-19 in non-hospitalised patients at high risk for disease progression to hospitalisation and death

Type: RCT/Phase III
Domain: COVID-19 in non-hospitalised patients
Test subject: Bemnifosbuvir (AT-527) **Pts enrolled:** 2

Atea Pharmaceuticals | First patient: Nov 2023 | Completion date: Aug 2024

PNEUMO

Observational study to determine incidence, seroprevalence and disease burden of pneumococcal CAP and invasive pneumococcal diseases

Type: Observational
Domain: Patients with acute respiratory infections in emergency rooms
Test subject: None **Pts enrolled:** 6,901

Merck | First patient: Feb 2020 | Completion date: Sep 2025

RSVPreF3 OA

Study to assess the immunogenicity and safety of an RSV vaccine when co-administered with a COVID-19 mRNA vaccine

Type: RCT/Phase III
Domain: Adults (+50 years)
Test subject: COVID-19+RSV vaccine **Pts enrolled:** 68

GSK | First patient: Jun 2024 | Completion date: Aug 2024

V118_24

A Phase III, randomized, observer-blind, multicenter clinical study to evaluate the efficacy, safety and immunogenicity an adjuvated influenza vaccine

Type: RCT/Phase III
Domain: Adults (+65 years)
Test subject: Adjuvanted quadrivalent influenza vaccine **Pts enrolled:** 232

CSL Seqirus | First patient: Nov 2024 | Completion date: Dec 2024

STRIDE-CAP

Pilot for a Test-Negative Case-Control Study to Evaluate the Effectiveness of a New Adult Pneumococcal Vaccine Against Pneumococcal Pneumonia in Older Adults

Type: Observational
Domain: CAP patients (+65 years)
Test subject: None **Pts enrolled:** 0

Merck through IQVIA | First patient: - | Completion date: Oct 2025

“... help young professionals broaden their horizons”

Jacopo Garlasco Researcher at the University of Verona, member of the EPI-Net team

“As young professionals, we are used to working in our hospitals and not so much to networking. Let alone networking at a European level. It was a real revelation when I started in the EPI-Net team in Verona and got in touch with Ecraid. Until then, I had only done projects at a regional or at most a national level. Through Ecraid, I gained access to a European network, which has become a never-ending source of things to discover. Especially on how clinical research works, for example.

In 2024, I helped Ecraid with organising the Young Investigator Workshop at ESCMID Global in Barcelona. It was a great experience, working with an international team of five people and moderating the workshop. Although the goal of the workshop was to share knowledge, it was very much focused on networking, highlighting the critical importance for young investigators to build an international network. Such connections provide valuable access to new contacts, fresh insights, and collaborative project opportunities.

Having worked in the public health field - where such events and networks for early-career professionals are common - I’ve seen how essential it is for young professionals to build a wider, international network. Not only does this broaden their perspectives and foster personal growth, it also contributes to advancing clinical research. There is a clear gap that needs to be filled.

I think Ecraid has the potential to take the lead in filling this gap. Young people now communicate through social media networks. It would be a good first step for Ecraid to create such a platform and facilitate more live events. That can also partly be done bottom-up. The involvement of young professionals like myself enhances the feeling of a community. Participating in events and a community will help young professionals broaden their horizons.”

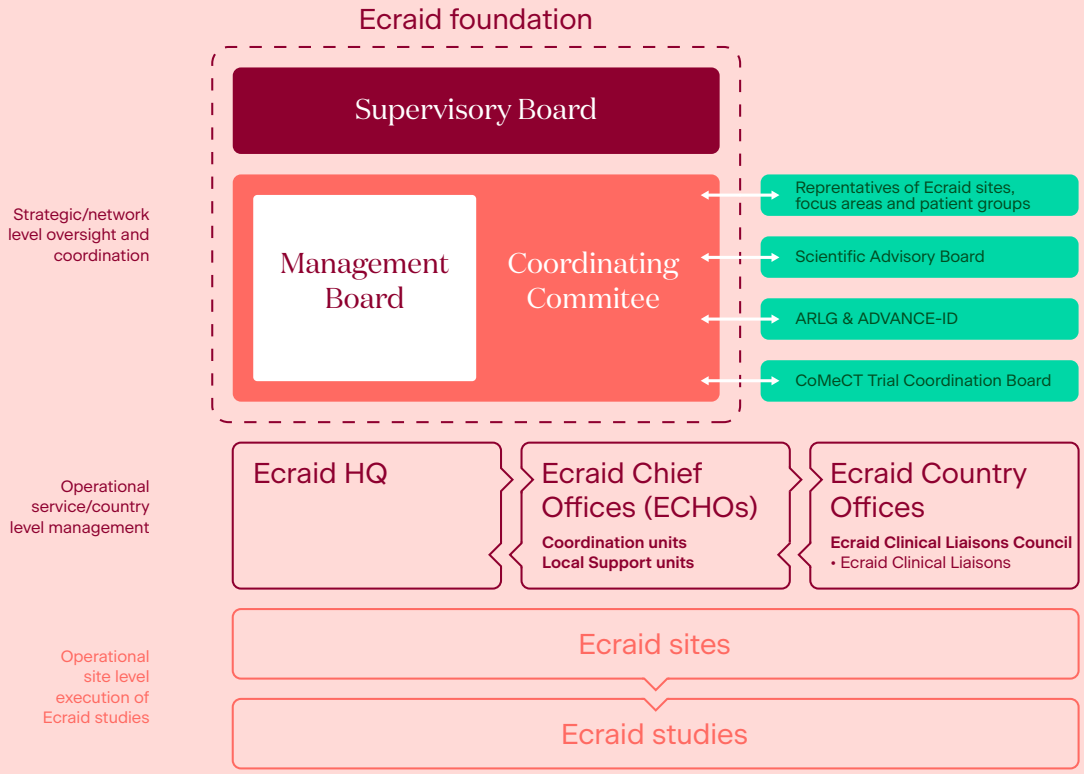
Ecraid governance

Ecraid has been established as a not-for-profit organisation under the Dutch Civil Law. The foundation employs the Management Board and central support staff of Ecraid. The Ecraid Management Board is responsible for the overall coordination and management of Ecraid. That board is supervised by the Supervisory Board.

Management Board

The Management Board is charged with the Foundation's management, including, but not limited to the general operations of the Foundation and representing the Foundation with regard to third parties.The Management Board consists of three persons Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Chief Scientific Officer (CSO), and Chief Operational Officer (COO). That board is supervised by the Supervisory Board. The Management Board meets on a weekly basis.

Marc Bonten	Chief Executive Officer
Nils Visser	Chief Operational Officer
Evelina Tacconelli	Chief Scientific Officer



Central support staff

Ecraid's central support staff was designed as a matrix structure, a work structure in which team members report to multiple leaders. Team members report to a clinical trial project manager and also to their department head. In addition, Ecraid also has central departments, such as Finance, People & Culture, Quality, Office Management, Business Development, Grant Management, and Communications & Marketing. Ecraid's Works Council represents employees' interests and actively consults with the Management Board on organizational developments, working conditions, and personnel policy.

Supervisory Board

The Supervisory Board ensures that the Management Board manages the foundation in accordance with the mission, identity, and objectives of Ecraid and that it acts and performs adequately. The Supervisory Board consists of global scientific experts and leading representatives of European and international scientific projects, networks and organisations with activities complementary to Ecraid. Four Supervisory Board meetings were held in 2024.

Arno Hoes	Chair, Executive Board member & dean University Medical Center Utrecht, the Netherlands
Annie van Broekhoven	Managing Director, CreaBioSupport BVBA, Belgium
Deborah Cook	Academic Chair of Critical Care, McMaster University, Canada
Juan Emilio Echevarría	Laboratory Head, Instituto de Salud Carlos III, Spain
Bernard Pécoul	Former Executive Director Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative, Switzerland
Momir Radulović	Observer, Board member EMA, Executive Director Slovenian Medicines Agency, Slovenia

Coordinating Committee

Ecraid's Coordination Committee functions as the central body in Ecraid responsible for the Europeanwide coordination of clinical studies on infectious diseases, strategy development, stakeholder management, and service and network development. Two Coor–dinating Committee meetings and two strategy 'Day@theOffice' meetings were held in 2024.

Marc Bonten	Chair, CEO Ecraid
Sybil Anthierens	Public Engagement – University of Antwerp, Belgium
Roger Brüggemann	P3 - Radboudumc, the Netherlands
Christopher Butler	POS on ARI in Primary Care, SOS-COVID, PRUDENCE, ECRAID-Prime – University of Oxford, United Kingdom
Oliver Cornely	VACCELERATE – University of Cologne, Germany
Jacques Demotes	ECRIN – Data Management, France
Lennie Derde	REMAP-CAP – University Medical Center Utrecht, the Netherlands
Bruno François	POS on VAP in ICUs – University Hospital of Limoges, France
Carlo Giaquinto	PENTA-ID, VERDI – University of Padova, Italy
Stephan Harbarth	STAT-Net – Geneva University Hospitals, Switserland
Peter Horby	POS on ARI in ER, MERMAIDS 2.0 – University of Oxford, United Kingdom
Thomas Jaenisch	RECoDid, Datasharing – Universität Heidelberg, Germany
Marion Koopmans	Outbreak Preparedness and Response Disease-X POS, VEO – Erasmus University Medical Center, the Netherlands
Surbhi Malhotra	LAB-Net - University of Antwerp, Belgium

Pontus Naucler	ECLC vice chair - Karolinska University Hospital Stockholm, Sweden
Jesús Rodriguez-Baño	POS on cUTI in ERs – Hospital Universitario Virgen Macarena, Spain
Oana Săndulescu	ECLC chair- Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest, Romania
Evelina Tacconelli	CSO Ecraid, EPI-Net, LOTTA-Net, ORCHESTRA – University of Verona, Italy
Arjana Tambić Andrašević	Capacity building Eastern Europe – University Hospital for Infectious Diseases Zagreb, Croatia
Nils Visser	COO Ecraid
Yazdan Yazdanpanah	EU-RESPONSE – INSERM and Bichat Hospital, France

Scientific Advisory Board

Ecraid's Scientific Advisory Board provides the Coordinating Committee with expert advice and feedback on its services, network composition, innovative trial designs, technologies, ethics, etc.

Evelina Tacconelli	Chair, CSO Ecraid
Seamus O'Brien	Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (GARDP)
Antonio di Caro	Unicamillus International University of Medicine Rome
Marco Cavaleri	Observer, European Medicines Agency
Vance Fowler	Duke University Durham
Nina Gobat	University of Oxford
Xavier de Lamballerie	Aix Marseille University
Nicole Lurie	Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)
Marc Mendelson	University of Cape Town
Frank Møller Aarestrup	Technical University of Denmark
David Paterson	University of Queensland
Hervé Raoul	Institut national de la santé et de la recherche médicale (INSERM)
Guy Thwaites	Oxford University Clinical Research Unit
Robert Weinstein	Rush University Chicago

Financial report

Policy pursued

In 2024, our financial policy remained anchored in long-term value creation, stability, and strategic alignment with our corporate mission. Our approach continued to be structured around the OGSM method (Objectives, Goals, Strategies, and Measures), which serves as the framework for both planning and execution across our financial operations. Ecraid's mission is based on 4 strategic pillars a further explained in detail on page 10.

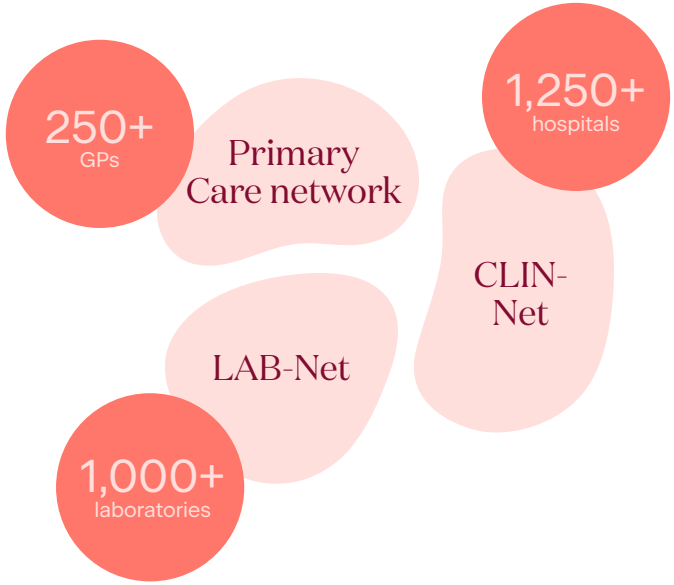
Financial position and risks

The financial statements comprehensively depict Ecraid's activities, which are primarily conducted from its headquarter. In 2024, approximately 44% of the revenue was from national and international public grants. Privately-funded activities encompass providing site selection services to pharmaceutical companies and CROs, trial project management as coordination unit or on behalf of partners, or acting as a trial site for vaccination studies.

The foundation has no objective to gain reserves, hence, the margin reached will be used to professionalise the organisation to strengthen the infrastructure, including its financial cash flow robustness, and to initiate investigator initiated studies. Financial risks are limited as Ecraid holds cash on a dedicated bank account. Ecraid does not work with 'embedded derivatives' and 'hedge accounting' and all larger programs are prefunded.

Given the nature of the organisation, risk assessment is addressed. The monitoring and managing of risks take place on the level of the foundation. Risks have been categorised and prioritised on their possibility and impact. The most significant risks and their mitigating measures identified are:

- Financial risks - continuity of sufficient cashflow; mitigated by effectuating a loan to cover late transfer of shifting funds
- Financial risks - continuity of funding; (successfully) mitigated by business development and submitting proposals for new funding.
- Project performance risks - overspending of project budgets and inefficient resourcing; successfully mitigated by implementing a project resource planning (PURE) system and an individual project (financial) performance reporting tool.



Financial Development

The year 2024 is Ecraid's second full year of operation and was closed with a positive result of €159,670 euro exceeding budget expectations due to slightly higher revenues and lower indirect expenses. Revenue composition remained consistent with forecasts: approximately 44% on public grants and 56% commercial projects. The total surplus was added to the foundation's reserve, which will guarantee sufficient cashflow in the coming years. The number of personnel increased from 60 to 76 employees (FTE), excluding freelance staff.

Income statement

Review by accountant

Income	
Private-funded Studies and Projects	€7,805,173
Publicly-funded Studies and Projects	€4,127,519
TOTAL INCOME FOR 2024	**€11,932,692**
Expenditures	
Direct costs of Private-funded Studies and Projects	€2,116,685
Direct costs of Publicly-funded Studies and Projects	€620,362
Personnel and personnel related expenses	€7,374,876
Other staff expenses	€260,921
Office rent	€127,226
Sales expenses	€145,155
Office expenses	€14,984
Depreciation	€5,634
Other expenses	€1,025,158
Financial gains and losses	€29,584
Income tax	€52,437
TOTAL EXPENDITURES FOR 2024	**€11,773,022**
TOTAL OF RESULT AFTER INCOME TAX 2024	**€159,670**

The aforementioned figures have been extracted from the 2024 financial statements with a review report provided by BDO accountants on 27 June 2025.

Abbreviations

ADVANCE-ID	Advancing Clinical Evidence in Infectious Diseases
APT	Adaptive platform trials
ARI	Acute respiratory infections
ARLG	Antibacterial Resistance Leadership Group
BE READY NOW	The Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda of the European partnership on Pandemic Preparedness
CAP	Community-acquired pneumonia
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CEPI	Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations
CLIN-Net	Clinical research network
CoMeCT	Coordination Mechanism for Cohorts and Trials
COO	Chief Operational Officer
CoVacc	Immune response to vaccination against COVID-19
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease 2019
CRO	Contract research organisation
CSO	Chief Scientific Officer
cUTI	Complicated urinary tract infections
disX	Disease X
EBITDA	Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation
ESCMID	European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
ECHO	Ecraid Chief Office
ECL	Ecraid Clinical Liaison
Ecraid	European Clinical Research Alliance on Infectious Diseases
ECRAID-Base	European Clinical Research Alliance on Infectious Diseases: The initial set of activities for Ecraid
ECRAID NL	Ecraid network in the Netherlands
ECRAID-Prime	European Clinical Research Alliance on Infectious Diseases: Primary care adaptive platform trial for pandemics and epidemics
ECRIN	European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network
EMA	European Medicines Agency
EPI-Net	Epidemiological network
EPOXI	European monkeypox randomised placebo-controlled, doubleblinded platform trial
ER	Emergency room
EU	European Union
GARDP	Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership
GP	General practitioner
GSK	GlaxoSmithKline
HAP	Hospital-acquired pneumonia
HORIZON-HEALTH	Horizon Europe - Cluster 1 Health
ICU	Intensive care unit
ID	Infectious diseases
INSERM	Institut national de la santé et de la recherche médicale
IPC	Infection prevention and control
LAB-Net	Laboratory network
LOTTA-Net	Long-term care facilities network
MERMAIDS	Multi-centre EuRopean study of MAjor Infectious Disease Syndromes

NICU	Neonatal intensive care unit
NIHR	National Institute for Health and Care Research, UK
OGSM	Objectives, goals, strategies and measures
ORCHESTRA	Connecting European Cohort to Increase Common and Effective Response to SARS-CoV-2 Pandemic Design: Population based, prospective and retrospective cohort study
P3	Pharmaceutical, pharmacology and pharmacometrics services
PENTA-ID	Paediatric European Network for Treatment of AIDS – Infectious Diseases
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
PIPELINE	Pregnancy and Infant Preparedness Platform in Europe
PNEUMO	Pneumococcal pNeumonia Epidemiology, Urine serotyping, Mental Outcomes
POS	Perpetual observational studies
PROACT EU-Response	A European Proactive Adaptive Clinical Trials Network within EU-Responses
PRUDENCE	Platform Randomised controlled trial of point of care Diagnostics for Enhancing the quality of aNtibiotic prescribing for Community acquired acute respiratory tract infection in ambulatory care in Europe
Pts	Patients
RECLAIM	Recovering from COVID-19 Lingering Symptoms Adaptive Integrative Medicine
RCT	Randomized controlled trial
ReCoDID	Reconciliation of Cohort data in Infectious Diseases
REMAP-CAP	Randomised, Embedded, Multifactorial, Adaptive Platform trial for Community-Acquired Pneumonia
RSV	Respiratory syncytial virus
SARS-CoV-2	Severe acute respiratory syndrome-coronavirus-2
SOS COVID	SARS-CoV-2 Observational Study on Coronavirus Disease 2019
STAT-Net	Statistical network
UMC Utrecht	University Medical Hospital Utrecht
VACCELERATE	European Corona Vaccine Trial Accelerator Platform
VAP	Ventilator-associated pneumonia
VEO	Versatile Emerging infectious disease Observatory
VERDI	SARS-CoV-2 variants Evaluation in pRegnancy and paeDIatrics cohorts
ZonMW	Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development

ecraid

More information?
Mail us at jointhemovement@ecraid.eu or visit us at www.ecraid.eu

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