# INSPIRE A European Training Network in Safety Pharmacology

#### **HESI Cardiac Safety Technical Committee (CSTC)**

23 April 2020

Prof. Dr. Pieter-Jan Guns, Coordinator (University of Antwerp)

Prof. Dr. Guido De Meyer, Director of Training (University of Antwerp)

Paz Yanez, Project Manager (University of Antwerp)

www.inspire-safety-pharmacology.eu





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### What is INSPIRE?



MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS

Innovative Training Networks (ITN)
Call: H2020-MSCA-ITN-2019

PART B

Acronym: "INSPIRE"

<u>INnovation</u> in <u>Safety Pharmacology for Integrated cardiovascular safety assessment to <u>REduce</u> adverse events and late stage drug attrition.</u>



This proposal is to be evaluated as:

ETN

#### "INSPIRE"

- MSCA-ITN funding
- European Training Network (ETN)
- Coordinator: University of Antwerp
- Starting date: Jan 2020 Dec 2023
- 15 PhD positions (ESR)
- ~4 Million €

### Outline

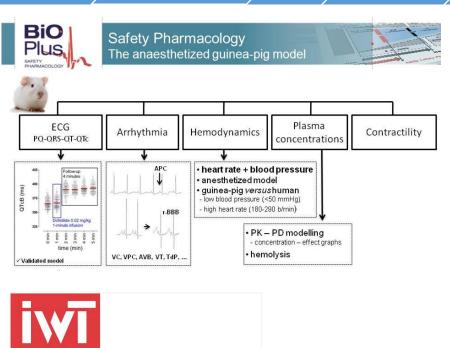


- I. My background...
- II. Marie Sklodowska Curie Actions (EU-funding)
- III. Project scope
- IV. Summary PhD-projects & clusters
- V. Training Programme

### I. My background...



1998 2003 2007 2008 2010 2012 2017 **University of University of Antwerp UA- Pharmacology** 1&1 **Bio-Plus Bio-Plus University of Antwerp Antwerp** R& I Manager Head of Laboratory **Assistant Professor** PhD student Postdoc British Journal of Pharmacology DOI:10.1111/j.1476-5381.2011.01795.x Safety Pharmacology









### II. MSCA-ETN programme









### II. MSCA-ETN programme



#### **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions**



#### ITN Innovative Training Networks

#### What does it offer?

High-quality research training delivered through international and interdisciplinary networks, industrial doctorates or joint doctorates

#### Who applies?

International networks of research organisations from the academic and nonacademic sectors

#### Who is funded?

Researchers at doctoral level (less than four years of full-time research experience and no doctoral degree)



#### IF

#### Individual Fellowships

#### What does it offer?

Opportunities to work on personal research projects by moving between countries and possibly sectors to acquire new skills

#### Who applies?

Individual researchers together with the host organisation

#### Who is funded?

Postdoctoral researchers



#### RISE

#### Research and Innovation Staff Exchange

#### What does it offer?

The exchange of staff members involved in research and innovation to develop sustainable collaborative projects and the transfer of knowledge

#### Who applies?

International networks of research organisations from the academic and non-academic sectors

#### Who is funded?

Researchers, technical, administrative and managerial staff of any nationality and at all career levels



#### COFUND

#### Co-Funding of Regional, National and International Programmes

#### What does it offer?

Regional, national or international programmes to foster excellence in researchers' training, mobility and career development

#### Who applies?

Organisations funding or managing doctoral programmes or fellowship programmes

#### Who is funded?

Researchers at doctoral and postdoctoral level

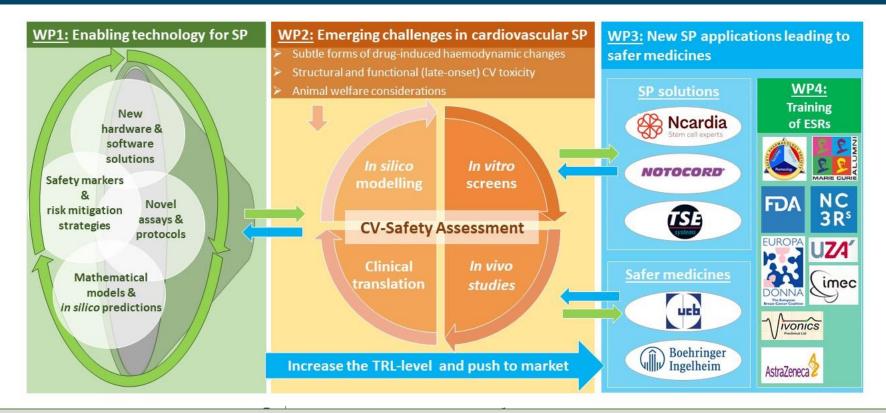
### III. Project scope





### III. Project scope

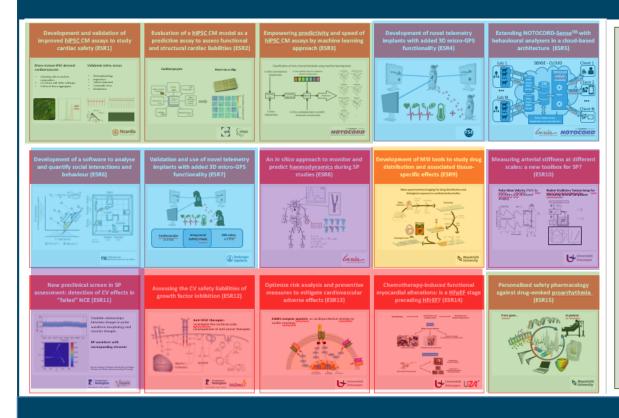




- Opportunity to explore technological advancements to further refine safety pharmacology assays
- Need to train a future generation of safety pharmacologist.

### IV. ESR positions & clusters





**Explore technology to further refine** safety pharmacology assays.

- L. hiPSC CM assays
- 2. Hardware/software innovation for non-invasive haemodynamic evaluation.
- 3. Alternative haemodynamic markers.
- 4. Mass Spectroscopy Imaging (exposure PBPK modelling)
- 5. Cardio-oncology / long-term toxicology

Train **future generation** of safety pharmacologist.

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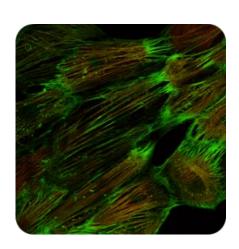
### 1. hIPSC cardiomyocyte assays

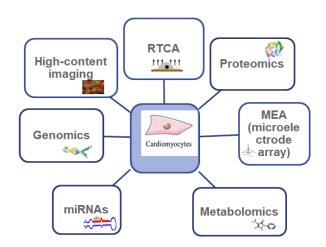


Cardiomyocyte maturation & 3D (co)culture models

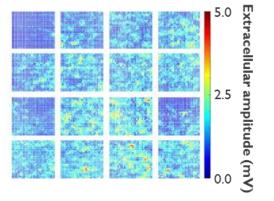
Integrated functional & molecular assays

Heart-on-chip (microfluidics)
& data analysis

















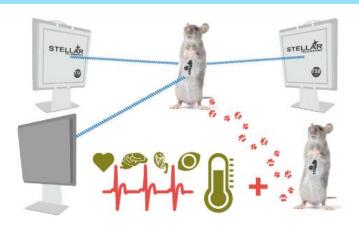


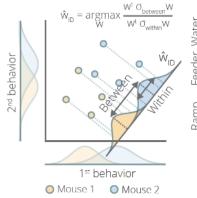


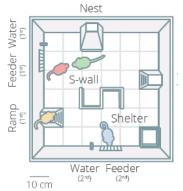
# 2. Technology for refinement of haemodynamic evaluation



### Novel hardware & software solutions















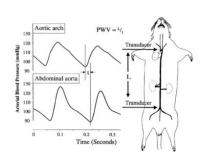


# 3. Refinement haemodynamic markers



### Novel markers or analysis methods

### Mathematical in silico modelling



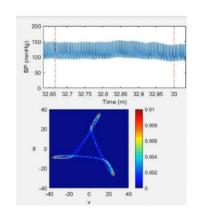
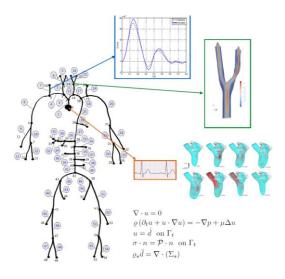


Figure courtesy of Manasi Nandi (King's College London) and Philip Aston (University of Surrey)







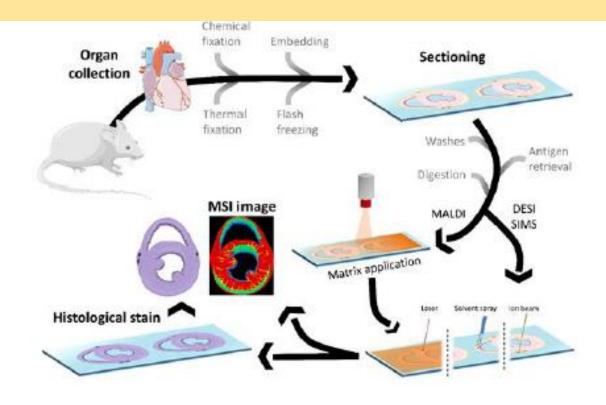




### 4. Drug exposure & proteomics In



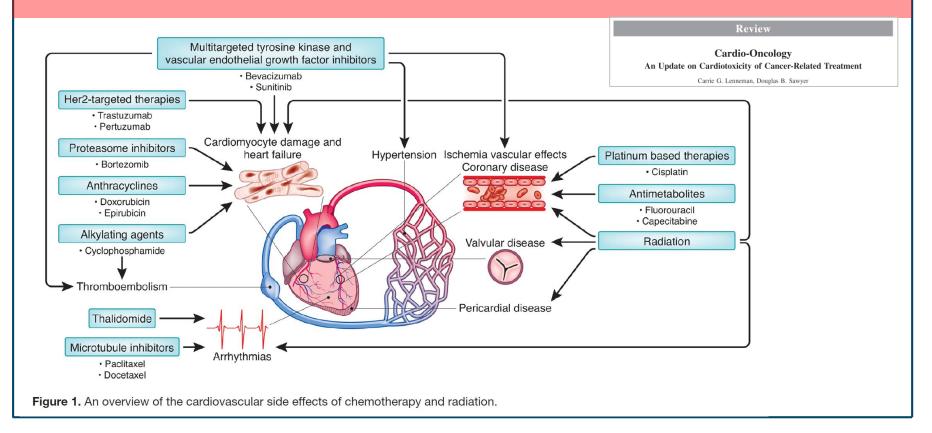
Mass Spectroscopy Imaging for tissue exposure (metabolites; PBBK modelling) and proteomic analysis



### 5. Cardio-Oncology research

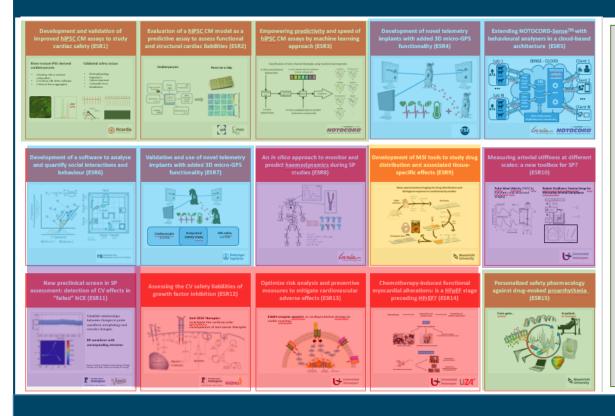


Translational research on Cardio-Oncology – strategies for long-term safety/toxicology evaluation and risk mitigation



### IV. 15 ESR positions & 5 clusters Ins





**Explore technology to further refine** safety pharmacology assays.

- hiPSC CM assays
- Hardware/software innovation for non-invasive haemodynamic evaluation.
- Alternative haemodynamic markers.
- Mass Spectroscopy Imaging (exposure – PBPK modelling)
- Cardio-oncology / long-term functional toxicology

Train **future generation** of safety pharmacologist.

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### V. Training programme



One of the drivers of the current SPS strategic plan was a recognition of an **impending mass retirement of experienced cardiovascular safety pharmacologists**, who need to be replaced at the early career level quite urgently to maintain the knowledge pool within the discipline globally and develop future leaders in the discipline.





### V. Training programme



#### Training through Research

- Highly multidisciplinary
- industry-academia-regulators-technology providers-...
- secondments

#### Network-wide events

- Summer schools, workshops
- Science + Business

#### Strategic Partners

- Safety Pharmacology Society
  - Annual Meetings, Webinars
  - DSP certification















