

EUCROF Members

As of today, CRO associations from 9 European countries constitute EUCROF.

These are:

		Number of CROs represented
ACRO-CZ	Czech Republic	22
ACRON	The Netherlands	40
AECIC	Spain	26
AFCROS	France	53
AICRO	Italy	14
BVMA	Germany	27
CCRA	United Kingdom	38
BeCRO	Belgium	19
NCROF	Norway	6

Almost 200 legal CRO entities in the EU now come under the banner of EUCROF, giving more than 11.000 employees a voice in the clinical research EU community in general, and before the European regulatory bodies, EMEA and EU Commission, in particular.

EUCROF Executive Board

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European CRO Federation



Promote quality clinical research



Represent the interests of CROs in Europe



Continuously build relationship with regulatory bodies, pharmaceutical and biotech industries as well as international organisations



Distribute and exchange information across member associations



Promote conferences, training & educational programs

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History, Aims and Objectives

EUCROF was founded in October 2005 as a legal entity in the Netherlands.

EUCROF represents the European Federation of national CRO associations established in several EU Member States as well as other European countries.

Its aims and objectives are defined as follows:

★ Promote clinical research of high quality in Europe

★ Form a legal entity to represent the interests of CROs in Europe, for example, in transactions with regulatory bodies, the pharmaceutical/biotechnology industry and the medical research community

★ Promote a close relationship and mutual understanding between the national member associations and the above-mentioned bodies

★ Promote the exchange of information between member associations

★ Develop training and educational programmes for clinical research, and assist the national member associations in setting up such programmes and ensuring their quality

★ Distribute information on developments in clinical research to healthcare professionals

★ Organise international conferences and meetings

EU Presence before Regulatory Bodies

EUCROF is invited to comment on EU regulations, directives and guidelines in the area of clinical research. Examples are:

★ Presentation at the EMEA Conference on the discussion of the First-in-Man (FIM) Guideline (12 June 2007)

★ Presentation at the EMEA Conference on the operation and future perspectives of the EU Clinical Trials Directive 2001/20/EC (3 October 2007)

★ Public consultation on the Assessment of the Functioning of the Clinical Trials Directive 2001/20/EC (8 January 2010)

EUCROF Working Groups

Several EUCROF working groups deal with EU matters in clinical research. Examples of working groups are:

★ Clinical Research in Europe – An overview of clinical research activities in the EU

★ European CRO associations – How to start up a CRO association in Europe

★ How to start up a clinical trial in the EU

★ Paediatric Working Group – An overview of activities in the paediatric clinical research area

★ Clinical Trials Legislation in the EU

★ Early Phase Clinical Studies

International Contacts

As clinical research is increasingly outsourced on a global level, it is important that the CRO industry is represented in the international arena.

Exchange of information has been started between EUCROF and the CRO organisations based in the US (ACRO) as well as Japan (JCROA). In addition cooperation with EFGCP has been established.

Future Perspectives

Contract research organisations play a major role in clinical trials and thus in the context of safety of trial subjects and high quality data.

The growing volume of outsourcing in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry means that active representation of CROs is becoming increasingly important.

Effective and acknowledged representation should be of vital importance for every CRO as Europe grows together and drug development becomes a global issue.

It is only possible to influence the degree to which quality standards are accepted and acknowledged by initiating the coordinated dialogue with other groups involved in drug development at national and international levels.

EUCROF has thus been intensifying its contact to other national and international associations, in order to promote the EUCROF mission of having an European CRO voice and representation.