

# Rundschreiben 10/2024

netzwerk-universitaetsmedizin.de



Berlin, 25.06.2024

## Vorstellung Themen für die Entwicklung kooperativer Projektideen im Kooperationsportal

### Zusammengefasst:

- Veröffentlichung der Calls für die Entwicklung von neuen kooperativen Projektideen im Rahmen des Kooperationsportals für das geplante NUM 3.0 ab 01.07.2025
- Freischaltung des Kooperationsportals im NUM Hub am 01.07.2024
- Veröffentlichung der orientierenden Kriterien, welche Projekte besonders gut für die Umsetzung im NUM geeignet sind

Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren,

wie im Rundschreiben 05/2024 angekündigt, startet am 01. Juli 2024 das Verfahren zur Entwicklung neuer Projektideen in den Themenräumen des Kooperationsportals im NUM Hub. Die Planung bezieht sich auf die geplante 3. Förderphase des NUM ab 01. Juli 2025 und ausschließlich auf Projekte der Forschungslinie.

Die geplanten 6 Calls werden am 01. Juli 2024 in den Themenräumen des NUM Hub veröffentlicht. Um einen ersten Eindruck der Themen zu vermitteln, erhalten Sie untenstehend und in Anlage 1 erste Informationen zu den Inhalten der Calls. Diese Calls sollen im Rahmen von Kick-off Terminen vorgestellt werden. Die folgende Tabelle gibt Ihnen einen Überblick über die geplanten Termine.

Themenraum	Titel	Kick-Off Termine Montag, 01. Juli 2024
1	Additions to and improvements of current NUM research (data) infrastructures	09:00 – 10:00
2	Two additional specialist networks for clinical studies, including new clinical and/or clinical-epidemiological studies, beyond infectious diseases	10:15 – 11:15
3	New clinical and/or clinical-epidemiological studies (incl. platform trial) on infectious diseases	11:30 – 12:30
4	Setting up new registries in the NUM	13:30 – 14:30
5	Research project(s) for the autopsy data platform	14:45 – 15:45
6	Research project(s) for the imaging data platform	16:00 – 17:00

GEFÖRDERT VOM



# Rundschreiben

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Eine Kurzbeschreibung der Themenräume sowie die Zugangsdaten für den virtuellen einstündigen Kick-Off für jeden Themenraum am 01. Juli 2024 finden Sie in Anlage 1 zu diesem Rundschreiben.

Zur Orientierung bei der Erstellung von Projektideen möchten wir auf die **orientierenden Kriterien für die Auswahl von NUM-Projekten** in **Anlage 2** aufmerksam machen. Diese Kriterien sollen helfen, Projekte zu identifizieren, die zur Durchführung im NUM besonders gut geeignet sind, weil sie außerhalb des NUM nicht oder nicht in der gleichen Qualität durchgeführt werden könnten. Damit sich Forschungsprojekte für die Durchführung im Rahmen des NUM qualifizieren, sollten sie möglichst viele der aufgeführten Kriterien erfüllen. Keine der Kriterien ist jedoch zwingend vorgegeben. Zur Überprüfung der Passfähigkeit der eingereichten englischsprachigen Projektskizzen wird den internationalen Gutachter:innen auch dieser Kriterienkatalog zur Verfügung stehen.

Bitte beachten Sie die Website <https://www.netzwerk-universitaetsmedizin.de/projekte/neue-forschungsideen>. Diese wird laufend mit neuen Informationen (z.B. Templates, Tutorials) aktualisiert.

Um an dem Prozess teilnehmen zu können, müssen Sie im NUM Hub registriert sein. Sollten Sie noch nicht im NUM Hub registriert sein, melden Sie sich bitte [hier](#) an.

Bitte informieren Sie auch weitere Interessierte an Ihren Standorten über das Verfahren.

Fragen zum Verfahren können Sie gern an Ihre Lokale Stabsstelle im NUM (eine Übersicht mit Kontaktdaten finden Sie unter <https://www.netzwerk-universitaetsmedizin.de/ueber-uns/organisation/lokale-stabsstellen>) oder an das zuständige Team in der Koordinierungsstelle stellen ([num-projektideen@charite.de](mailto:num-projektideen@charite.de)).

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Ralf Heyder

### Anlagen

- Anlage 1: Tabellarische Darstellung der Themenräume mit Kurzbeschreibung und Zugangsdaten für Kick-Off Termine der Themenräume (Stand 20.06.2024)
- Anlage 2: Orientierende Kriterien (Stand 20.06.2024)

## Suitability criteria for NUM research projects

The following criteria are solely meant for assessing whether a research project is particularly well-suited for being conducted within the NUM, as opposed to other clinical research networks. The criteria are supposed to help identify projects that should be conducted in the NUM because they could not at all function or not in the same quality be conducted outside of the NUM. **In order for research projects to qualify for being conducted within the NUM framework, the projects should fulfill as many of the following criteria as possible. However, no single criterion is mandatory.**

The following criteria are not meant to judge the general relevance and/or quality of research projects. The following list therefore cannot and should not replace the usual and generally accepted criteria to assess the feasibility, relevance, and quality of research projects. These need to be applied irrespective of whether a project proposal is deemed to be particularly well-suited for the NUM or not.

The following list is a living document. It is meant to help all NUM stakeholders to develop a common understanding with regard to the NUM's purpose and its role in research promotion. Further criteria and indicators can be added and/or existing criteria and indicators can be modified at any time.

Number	Criteria	Indicators for whether the criteria are met by the proposal	Comments
1	Proposals either promote or implement projects in clinical or clinical epidemiological research or focus on pandemic and general health crisis preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Causal description of how the respective research questions and/or research goals relate to these topics</li> </ul>	NUM activities focus on (i) supporting and/or implementing clinical and clinical epidemiological research and/or (ii) promoting pandemic and general health crisis preparedness. Proposals need to fall into this scope.
2	Proposals have potential direct impact on patient care or public health, particularly by providing the highest possible levels of evidence and/or accelerating the translation of research findings into clinical practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Potential for immediate practical relevance (i.e. affecting treatment guidelines, recommendations for vaccination, pandemic action plans) is clearly demonstrated</li> <li>- Implementation of the first few X cases and contacts (FFX) protocols of the WHO</li> </ul>	<p>The NUM's focus is <u>not</u> on basic research, early phase clinical studies, development of drugs, medical devices, tests or vaccines. Instead, the NUM focuses on using patient care data and biosamples to derive evidence that has potentially immediate impact on treatment of as large a number of patients as possible.</p> <p>Also, the NUM supports strategies (i.e.</p>

Number	Criteria	Indicators for whether the criteria are met by the proposal	Comments
		for investigating new infectious diseases is part of the project	surveillance, sampling, tracing) to rapidly derive evidence from patient data in case of a public health crisis, in particular the appearance of new infectious diseases.
3	Proposals prioritize data-intensive prospective or retrospective studies (i.e. clinical studies/trials) that either require an extensive data recall for identifying clusters and complex subtypes or necessitate a large patient population and/or data pool to recruit representative numbers of cases and/or collect relevant amounts of data, e.g. in the area of rare diseases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need for collecting data/recruit patients from a large number of sites (the more the better) is clearly demonstrated (feasibility etc.)</li> <li>- Evidence gaps that can only be filled with high-powered multi-center studies need to be clearly described (i.e. literature review)</li> <li>- Need for record linkage across various data sources, i.e. data from cancer registries or claims data</li> <li>- Research designs put an emphasis on vulnerable or marginalized patient and age groups, therefore requiring large samples/data collections</li> <li>- Research designs promote maximum data diversity (i.e. implementation of SAGER (Sex and Gender Equity in Research) guidelines), therefore requiring large samples/data collections</li> </ul>	NUM activities focus on providing data (quantity and quality) that cannot be provided by other sources/networks or individual sites at all or at the same speed

Number	Criteria	Indicators for whether the criteria are met by the proposal	Comments
6	Research activities are not already covered by other German research networks like the German Centers for Health Research (DZG) or the National Centre for Tumor Diseases (NCT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clear demonstration that the respective research questions and/or research goals are out of scope of other research networks (i.e. need for interdisciplinary approach, specific goal/type of the study, number/type of study centers needed, specific disease or disease area) or clear demonstration of the added value of a particular NUM activity that is closely related to the activities of other research networks (double funding must be excluded)</li> <li>- Disclosure of closely related research activities that are funded by other funders (including industry) and/or implemented in other research networks; and clear demonstration of the differences between those activities and the intended NUM project</li> </ul>	There should be a clear division of labor between the NUM and other research networks. However, if NUM projects affect areas that are also covered by other research networks (i.e. pediatric age group, large studies on a particular disease covered by a DZG) close collaboration is necessary and synergies should be harvested.
7	Proposals contribute to creating a comprehensive German data space for clinical research by adhering to a uniform set of rules and standards for data capture, data management and data usage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Suggested data collection processes/ infrastructure solutions/ interfaces need to support the creation of a NUM data ecosystem (i.e. possibility of data exchange, linkage and secondary use under the NUM umbrella)</li> <li>- Clear description of the generated data and its potential for secondary/ subsequent use and/or linkage with other NUM data and external data sources beyond NUM</li> <li>- Clear description of contribution to using/improving NUM research (data) infrastructure</li> </ul>	Currently, data from clinical research as well as patient data in general is often siloed. There often are no or very limited options for secondary use. Also, there often is no or very limited potential for record linkage. In order to change this, clinical research data needs to be collected, managed and used in accordance with the FAIR-principles. To this end, clinical research projects need to be set up on platforms that are able to guarantee adherence to these principles and function based on a joint set of templates, rules and standards. The NUM strives to implement such platforms to clinical research for a wide

Number	Criteria	Indicators for whether the criteria are met by the proposal	Comments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Usage of the various NUM offers for methodological support and advice</li> <li>- Clear commitment to FAIR principles and adherence to NUM rules</li> <li>- Compliance with international and national regulation and standards, e.g. the European Health Data Space and the Health Data Use Act</li> <li>- Implementation of FHIR standards with the respective terminologies (ICD, OPS, SNOMED, LOINC, UCUM) as recommended by the German Federal Institute for Drugs and Medical Devices (BfArM) whenever this is necessary to promote the exchange and usage of data across various sites and data domains</li> <li>- Utilization of existing NUM/MII (Medical Informatics Initiative Germany) processes and templates, i.e. core data set or MII broad consent</li> </ul>	<p>spectrum of use cases as possible, thereby laying the groundwork for a NUM data ecosystem.</p>
8	<p>Proposals demonstrate a high chance of successful completion within ambitious timelines, despite complexities of multicenter coordination and implementation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proposal is backed by strong community of researchers on a national (multi-center) level, with clearly established joint research interests (i.e. a track record of past successful multi-center collaboration and/or partnerships)</li> <li>- Clear definition of the competencies (clinical, methodological etc.) and infrastructures needed for successful completion; and clear description how</li> </ul>	

Number	Criteria	Indicators for whether the criteria are met by the proposal	Comments
		<p>they will be integrated into the project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The roles and division of labor between the different PIs/institutions are clear and complementary</li> <li>- The partners have clearly defined common goals and rules for sharing results (i.e. dissemination/exploitation activities)</li> </ul>	
9	<p>The research project is collaborative (non-competitive) by nature, that means that all or at least most interested parties from German academic medical centers have a chance to contribute and/or benefit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Data from the research project is openly accessible to the research community</li> <li>- Demonstrated efforts to include as many partners and/or sites as possible (within budget restrictions); this includes disclosure who was not included and why</li> <li>- Visible joint effort to provide multi-center research opportunities to early career researchers (ECR)</li> </ul>	
10	<p>Need to use the specific NUM research (data) infrastructures to generate or get access to research data that would not be available through other means/sources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need for record linkage of data sources (across different data domains) that could not be linked on other platforms</li> <li>- Need for secondary use of data available only through NUM</li> <li>- Need for collecting data/generating new data that could not be collected/generated without using the NUM platforms (i.e. the NUM clinical study platform)</li> </ul>	

Number	Criteria	Indicators for whether the criteria are met by the proposal	Comments
11	Research designs that bridge gaps between different data domains, data silos and/or previously separate research communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Research designs that reach across healthcare sectors</li> <li>- Research designs with a strong interdisciplinary and/or interprofessional focus</li> <li>- Research designs that combine data and methodologies in new ways (i.e. data from prospective studies with claims data; or data from population-based cohorts with clinical care data)</li> </ul>	



**Anlage 1: Tabellarische Darstellung der Themenräume mit Kurzbeschreibung und Zugangsdaten für Kick-Off Termine der Themenräume (Stand 20.06.2024)**

Themenraum	Titel	Kurzbeschreibung	Termin Kick-Off	Zugangsdaten
1	Additions to and improvements of current NUM research (data) infrastructures	The NUM currently operates several research (data) infrastructures with a variety of purposes. These are AKTIN@NUM, GenSurv, NUKLEUS, RACoon, NUM-RDP, NUM-DIZ, NATON 2.0. <sup>1</sup> This call deals with the improvement and further development of the NUM infrastructures listed above. These research (data) infrastructures need to be continually improved and expanded in order to best serve the needs of clinical researchers. To this end, the NUM funds additional research projects for infrastructure development outside of the base funding of NUM infrastructures. This serves the purpose to open up participation in infrastructure development projects to the entire NUM community, not only to those who are already operating NUM infrastructures.	01.07.2024, 09:00 – 10:00	<p><b>MS Teams:</b> <a href="#">Zugang Themenraum 1</a></p> <p><b>Per Telefon einwählen:</b> <a href="tel:+4969505004910">+49 69 505004910</a> Telefonkonferenz-ID: 156 468 161#</p>
2	Two additional specialist networks for clinical studies, including new clinical and/or clinical-epidemiological studies, beyond infectious diseases	The NUM is in the process of setting up a generic clinical study network as well as a specialist network on infectious diseases. In the new funding period, the latter should be complemented by two more specialist networks. These specialist networks are comprised by clinicians and clinical staff in the respective research fields, who are responsible for drafting and implementing study protocols and recruiting patients within the respective specialist area.	01.07.2024, 10:15 – 11:15	<p><b>MS Teams:</b> <a href="#">Zugang Themenraum 2</a></p> <p><b>Per Telefon einwählen:</b> <a href="tel:+4969505004910">+49 69 505004910</a> Telefonkonferenz-ID: 471 425 94#</p>

<sup>1</sup> Informationen zu den Forschungsinfrastrukturen des NUM finden Sie auf der Website <https://www.netzwerk-universitaetsmedizin.de/projekte/forschungsinfrastrukturen-im-num> oder im NUM Hub in den jeweiligen Themenräumen.

Themenraum	Titel	Kurzbeschreibung	Termin Kick-Off	Zugangsdaten
3	New clinical and clinical-epidemiological studies (incl. platform trial) on infectious diseases	The NUM is in the process of setting up a generic clinical study network and various specialist clinical study networks. This call aims to identify clinical trials, clinical-epidemiological studies or platform trials in the field of infectious diseases to strengthen the NUM clinical study network in general and as part of a rapid response capability to public health crises.	01.07.2024, 11:30 – 12:30	<b>MS Teams:</b> <a href="#">Zugang Themenraum 3</a>  <b>Per Telefon einwählen:</b> <a href="tel:+4969505004910">+49 69 505004910</a> Telefonkonferenz-ID: 809 056 949#
4	Setting up new registries in the NUM	This call is aimed at identifying new registries that should be established specifically in the NUM (as opposed to other contexts) on NUM (data) infrastructures, to enrich and take advantage of the NUM ecosystem. Any potential registry must directly support patient-oriented and potentially practice-changing research and/or public health (crises) management.	01.07.2024, 13:30 – 14:30	<b>MS Teams:</b> <a href="#">Zugang Themenraum 4</a>  <b>Per Telefon einwählen:</b> <a href="tel:+4969505004910">+49 69 505004910</a> Telefonkonferenz-ID: 650 288 058#
5	Research project(s) for the autopsy data platform	The infrastructure project NUM National Autopsy Network (NATON) is a Germany-wide network of university hospitals and autopsy centres that serves to gain systematic and standardised data and intelligence about pathogens from autopsies. The aim is to provide comprehensive and joined-up data for research across the NUM network. This call serves the purpose of identifying at least one	01.07.2024, 14:45 – 15:45	<b>MS Teams:</b> <a href="#">Zugang Themenraum 5</a>

Themenraum	Titel	Kurzbeschreibung	Termin Kick-Off	Zugangsdaten
		research project (use case) that uses the autopsy data platform and ideally contributes to improving it further.		<b>Per Telefon einwählen:</b> <a href="tel:+4969505004910">+49 69 505004910</a> Telefonkonferenz-ID: 338 205 821#
6	Research project(s) for the imaging data platform	The infrastructure project Radiological Cooperative Network (RACOON) <sup>1</sup> , a nationwide imaging data platform, supports the structured real-time collection, evaluation and provision of radiological data. This call aims to identify at least one research project (use case) that uses the imaging data platform and ideally contributes to improving it further.	01.07.2024, 16:00 – 17:00	<b>MS Teams:</b> <a href="#">Zugang Themenraum 6</a>  <b>Per Telefon einwählen:</b> <a href="tel:+4969505004910">+49 69 505004910</a> Telefonkonferenz-ID: 787 512 101#