

**COST Action: EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR IMPROVING PAEDIATRIC SOLID ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION BY INDUCING TOLERANCE THROUGH HAEMATOPOIETIC STEM CELL TRANSPLANTATION AND OTHER CELL THERAPIES (SHINE)**

This Action will establish the first European multidisciplinary network, including academic laboratories, research institutes, hospitals, SME and a biotechnology company, with a wide range of excellence and expertise, aiming at inducing tolerance in solid organ transplanted (SOT) paediatric patients through haematopoietic stem cell transplantation and other cell therapies. This Action will help eliminating the lifetime dependence on immunosuppressive (IS) treatment. This innovative approach is even more important in children since their life expectancy is longer than in adults and they face graft loss due to long-term IS therapy. Until now, there is fragmented knowledge of innovative cell therapies to induce tolerance. The key challenge of this Action is to fill these gaps by finding the best, safer and efficient cell therapy for each transplanted children based on the type of transplant and demographic factors. These therapies will contribute to paediatric patients decrease suffering and improvement of their quality of life. The collaborative work will result in a more efficient healthcare system decreasing the cost of IS treatment and adverse effects including the cost for graft loss and the need for a re-transplant or other treatment options. It will reduce redundancies, promote effective use of resources and increase the productivity of European research groups.

This Action will promote and coordinate a highly translational and innovative research programme in Europe and beyond while developing a forum for knowledge exchange and training of European early career investigators to grow as future independent research leaders, regardless of location, age or gender.

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