



Collaboration Agreement
between

Masaryk University (MU),
Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the Czech Republic (IHIS),
University of Chemistry and Technology (UCT),
Institute of Experimental Medicine, Czech Academy of Sciences (IEM),
Charles University (CU),
Czech University of Life Sciences (CULS), and
St. Anne's University Hospital Brno (FNUSA)

Whereas,

there are numerous initiatives at the national as well as international/European levels aimed at improved monitoring and scientific assessment of human exposures to chemicals and potential health impacts in Europe. A first step to better assess and understand this potential impact on health is to gather harmonised and comparable information on population exposure to chemicals through human biomonitoring (HBM), to link this information to data on exposure sources and epidemiological surveys and to promote research on the exposure-response relationships in humans. This should be achieved through coordination of HBM initiatives and linking research to evidence-based policy making.

Whereas, Masaryk University, Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the Czech Republic, University of Chemistry and Technology, Institute of Experimental Medicine of Academy of Science, Charles University, Czech University of Life Sciences, and St. Anne's University Hospital Brno, (hereinafter "the Parties") recognize that the successful achievement of this goal requires establishing a national hub to coordinate the biomonitoring activities at the national level.

Therefore,

The Parties, with a view to establish closer ties, enter into this Collaboration Agreement (hereinafter "CA") to encourage the establishment and development of the Czech national hub of human biomonitoring (hereinafter "HBM_CZ") and agree the following:

1. The Parties will establish HBM_CZ as a national hub to coordinate the national level of human biomonitoring activities.
2. The Parties will establish a national steering committee.
3. The Parties will establish a framework supporting research and innovation by:

- i. improving underlying methods and procedures for sampling, sample analysis, data analysis, and data management,
 - ii. improving the understanding of the impact of the exposure on human health by development of validated exposure and effect biomarkers and establishing correlation between biomarker levels and health risks,
 - iii. improving the use of HBM data in risk assessment of chemicals (the acquired knowledge should support informed decision taking and policy making in a wide variety of sectors).
4. Joint activities to be carried out are aiming at advancing, harmonising and quality assurance in field work practices and analytical methods, developing innovative analytical methods, non-invasive technologies, new biomarkers, and reference materials, establishment of the network of reference laboratories and field survey entities of high quality and their engagement in capacity building across Europe and facilitating access to special equipment. Establishment of best practices for management of data resulting from linking analytical results and field surveys will be covered as well as using the joint data warehouse enabling correlation, integration and analysis of data from different sources (HBM data, environmental, occupational, health examination and epidemiological surveys; research on exposure mechanisms and modes of actions and research for innovative approaches to risk assessment).
5. The science-policy interface of the HBM_CZ work will be in charge of informing existing policy making processes at EU and national level about the outcome of the HBM activities, explore the possibilities and requirements for an increased use of HBM data in evidence-based policy processes and mobilising existing committees and expert/advisory groups to contribute to setting priorities.
6. The CA shall become effective upon signature by each Party and remain in force until further notice. Each Party shall be entitled to terminate this CA upon three month written notice. Termination will incur no liability on either Party, and will not affect any agreements or other legally-binding arrangements in place among the Parties.
7. No Party shall have an obligation to enter into further agreements concerning or under this CA. Each Party shall bear its costs and expenses arising out of this CA.

For: Masaryk University

Name: [REDACTED] Dr., dean of the Faculty of Science

Signature: [REDACTED]

Date: 11.4.2016

For: Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the Czech Republic

Name: [REDACTED] director of IHIS

Signature: [REDACTED]

Date: 13.5.2016

For: University of Chemistry and Technology

Name: [REDACTED] Vice-Rector for Research and Development

Signature: [REDACTED]

Date: 30.5.2016

For: Institute of Experimental Medicine, Czech Academy of Sciences

Name: [REDACTED] director

Signature: [REDACTED]

Date: 23. 05. 2016

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AV ČR, v. v. i.
142 20 Praha 4, Videnská 1083
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For: Charles University

Name: [redacted] rector

Signature: [redacted]

Date: 2.6.2016

For: Czech University of Life Sciences

Name: [redacted] rector

Signature: [redacted]

Date: 06. 06. 2016



For: St. Anne's University Hospital Brno

Name: [redacted] director

Signature: [redacted]

Date: 24.04.2016

**Fakultní nemocnice
u sv. Anny v Brně**
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