



WELCOME LETTER FROM THE PROJECT COORDINATOR

FEBRUARY 01

Welcome to ORCHID

Leiden University Medical Centre and the Dutch Research consortium hDMT is delighted to welcome you to ORCHID and read this first newsletter of our new EU-funded project to establish a European infrastructure that will enable coordinated development, production and implementation of organs-on-chip technology. As you know, the ORCHID roadmap aims to accelerate the societal and economic impact of Organ-on-Chip technology through coordinated action of our participating groups. We all believe organs-on-chip are poised to deliver applications in personalized medicine safety pharmacology, and offer alternatives to conventional animal testing and are delighted to have this opportunity over the next two years to facilitate the dialogue and documentation towards accelerating the development of prototypes of organs-on-chips in Europe.

We hope to have your input to build an infrastructure for scientists, policy makers, funders and end-users to join the decision-making processes that will direct future European developments in organs-on-chips applications. We envisage an essential contribution of ORCHID to be the establishment of a digital platform enabling knowledge sharing between researchers, private corporations, and representatives of insurance companies, pharmaceutical and biotech companies, the food industry, health foundations and patient organizations. This we hope this will lead to implementation of organ-on-chip technology by a broad group of potential users in science, health care and industry.

Our aim in ORCHID is to provide comprehensive overviews and updates of current and new organs-on-chip initiatives so that users can track progress easily, consult developers directly and identify gaps in present knowledge limiting implementation. Within ORCHID we will also consider ethical and regulatory issues, particularly concerning personalized information, economic and social impact, training of researchers, and the design of an R&D 'roadmap'.

Society already has high expectations of this technology and we feel that part of the responsibility of ORCHID is to manage these expectations by provide accurate information on the state of research: what is possible now and what is likely to be possible in the near future? Will regulatory authorities and other stakeholders like pharma and drug discovery biotech be persuaded that organ-on-chip models can reduce or even replace expensive animal experiments? Will the models achieve high predictivity in the foreseeable future and what will be necessary to facilitate this process?

Within ORCHID we look forward to addressing the issues and many more. We have already had a great kick-off meeting and set out our first goals in more detail. We think that we have a great team to move this forward and perhaps ultimately secure strong finance options to make Europe competitive with large initiatives elsewhere so that we are ultimately attractive partners on the world stage. Organs-on-chip is growing: we are all pleased to be part of it and look forward to moving the field ahead through the collaborative effort we have established with ORCHID.



**Christine Mummery,
ORCHID coordinator
LUMC**



The ORCHID ***kick-off meeting*** took place at the Leiden University Medical Center in the Netherlands on October 19th 2017.

All partners of the ORCHID project presented their plans and discussed how to accelerate the societal and economic impact of Organ-on-Chip technology through coordinated action.

<https://h2020-orchid.eu/kick-off-meeting-orchid/>



PRESENCE AT FUTURE EVENTS:

26 February 2018: Visit Janny van den Eijnden to JRC ISPRA, Italy

Lecture about ORCHID/hDMT: Organ-on-chip in Europe: Stronger together

8-12 April 2018:

Keystone Organ-on-chip congress USA: [click here](#)



23 May 2018: Invitational Vision workshop ORCHID

24-25 May 2018: EUROoC Conference in Stuttgart

[click here](#)



IOOCS2018 (annual hDMT conference: International Organ-on-chip symposium 2018)- *pending update*

Inserm Workshop (October 2018)- *pending update*

JOB OFFER:

[Open Postdoc position](#) at Fraunhofer Institute for Interfacial Engineering and Biotechnology IGB

[Postdoc position](#) in microfluidics is offered to join research group, Applied Mechanics and Bioengineering (AMB). University of Zaragoza

ORCHID IN THE NEWS

[ORCHID - human Organ and Disease Model Technologies](#)

[ORCHID - Fraunhofer IGB](#)

[Imec to develop Organs-on-Chips - Electronics Weekly](#)

[Leti and BIG working on tomorrow's Organ-on-chip](#)

[Aragón Institute for Engineering Research \(I3A\)](#)

PAST EVENTS

5 October 2017:

EMA Workshop London, UK. [click here](#)

14 -15 November 2017:

DMD conference, Eindhoven, The Netherlands. [click here](#)

2-6 December 2017:

2017 IEEE International Electron Devices Meeting (IEDM). [click here](#)

12 -13 December 2017:

International MicroNano Conference, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. [click here](#)

16 January 2018:

1st Workshop on NanoOncology, Zaragoza, Spain