evbres
Evidence-Based Research

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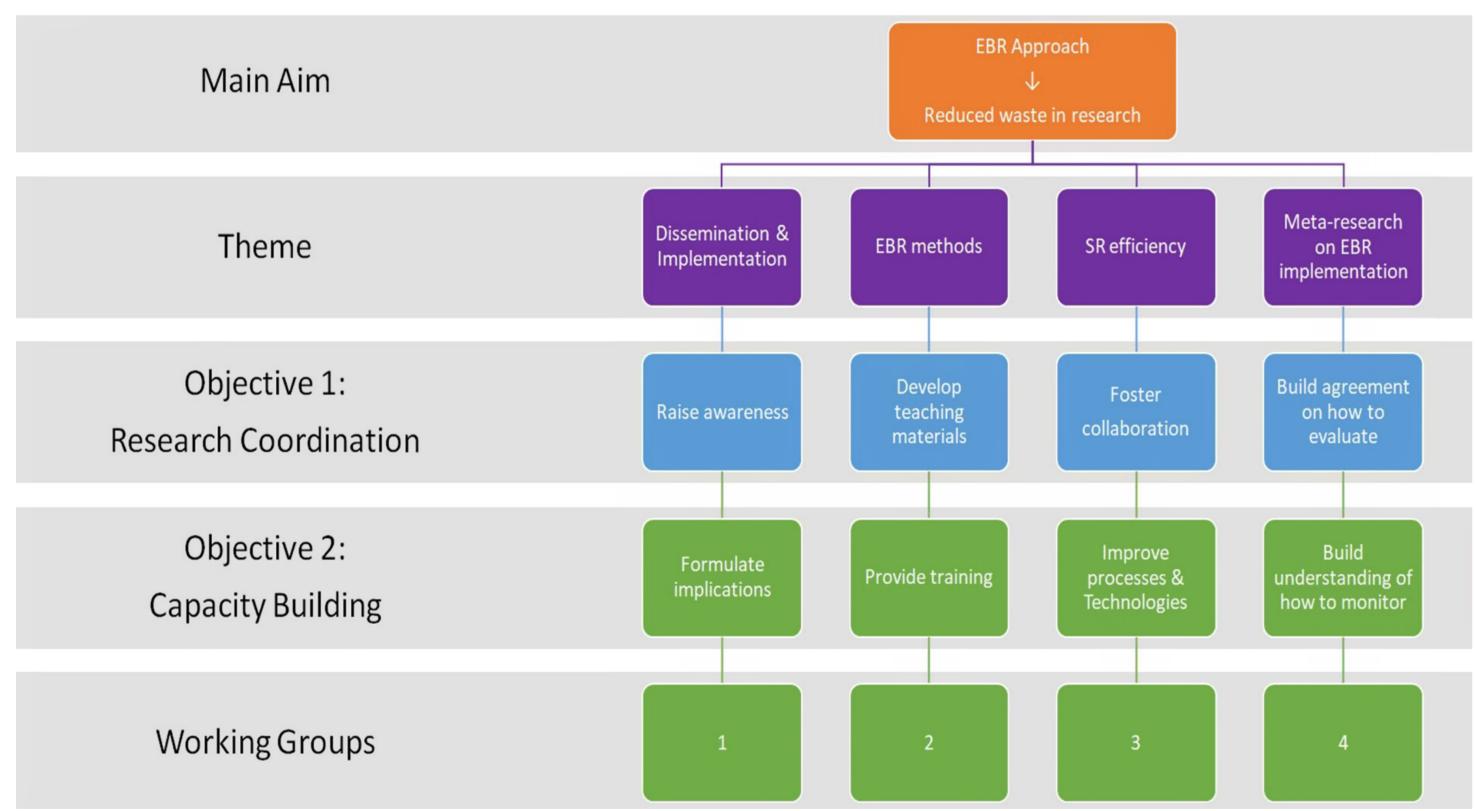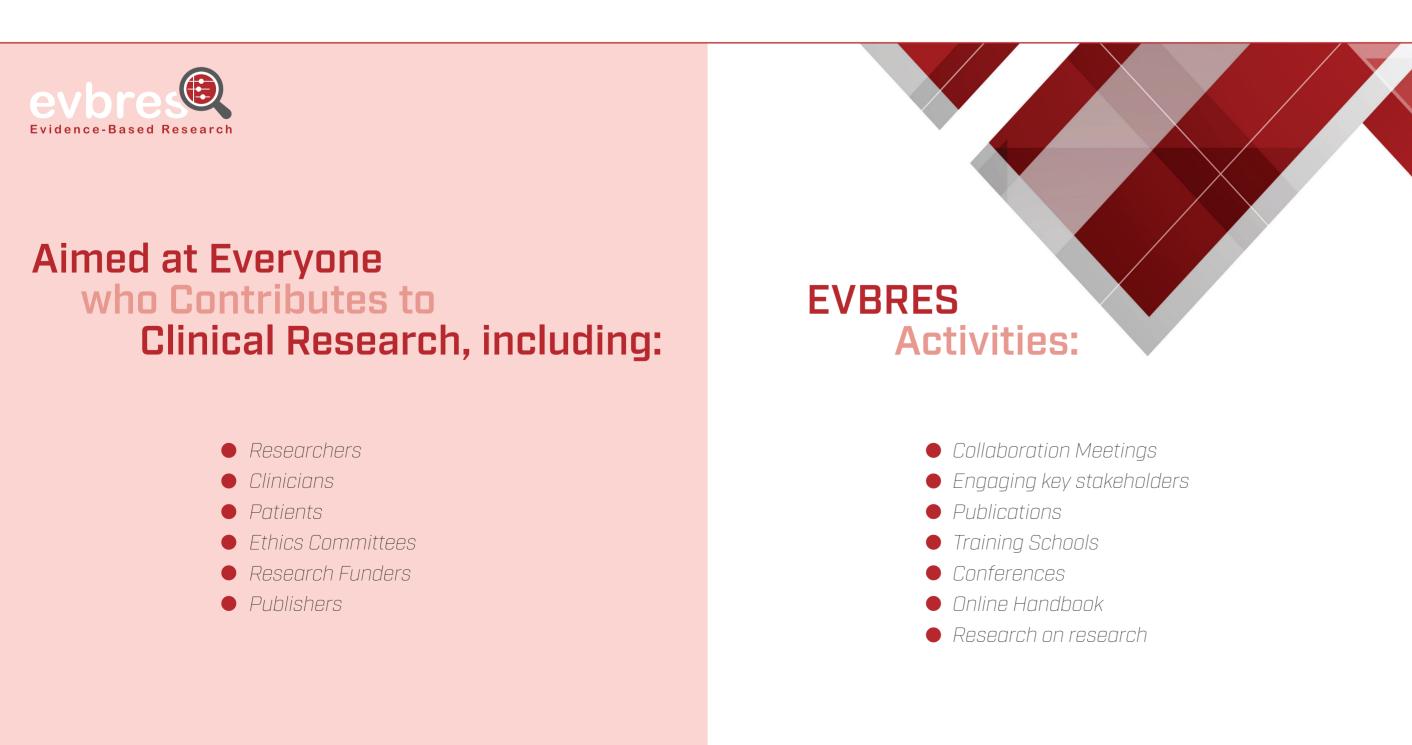*"If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of Giants"*

Isaac Newton

What is EVBRES?

A research and development network promoting collaboration and capacity building for **EV**idence-**B**ased **RES**earch.
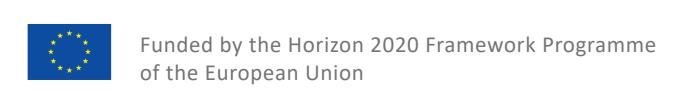
▶ 4-year EU-funded COST Action (CA17117) running from October 17th 2018 to October 16th 2022.

▶ A **COST Action** is a network dedicated to scientific collaboration, promoting knowledge sharing and pooling of resources. It complements national research funds, optimising investment through research cooperation.

evbres — Evidence-Based Research

Do You Want Clinical Research To Be...
- ✔ Ethical
- ✔ Relevant
- ✔ Worthwhile

Evidence-Based Research can be defined as:

*"The use of prior research in a **systematic and transparent** way to inform a new study so that it is answering questions that matter in a valid, **efficient and accessible** manner"*

Main Aim		EBR Approach ↓ Reduced waste in research		
Theme	Dissemination & Implementation	EBR methods	SR efficiency	Meta-research on EBR implementation
Objective 1: Research Coordination	Raise awareness	Develop teaching materials	Foster collaboration	Build agreement on how to evaluate
Objective 2: Capacity Building	Formulate implications	Provide training	Improve processes & Technologies	Build understanding of how to monitor
Working Groups	1	2	3	4

evbres — Evidence-Based Research

Aimed at Everyone who Contributes to Clinical Research, including:
- Researchers
- Clinicians
- Patients
- Ethics Committees
- Research Funders
- Publishers

EVBRES Activities:
- Collaboration Meetings
- Engaging key stakeholders
- Publications
- Training Schools
- Conferences
- Online Handbook
- Research on research

"For clinical research to be worthwhile, relevant and ethical, new studies should be justified by systematic reviews of earlier similar studies"

Prof. Hans Lund, EVBRES Chair

One would think:
No paper has ever been published without references to earlier published scientific results. What's the problem?

Meta-research (i.e. research on research) indicates that clinical researchers do **NOT**:

▶ Use a systematic and transparent approach to justify new studies.

▶ Use a systematic and transparent approach to design new studies.

▶ Use a systematic and transparent approach when placing new results in the context of existing results from earlier similar trials.

When earlier studies are not considered in a systematic and transparent way when justifying and designing new clinical studies:

▶ Too many redundant studies are performed and published – leading to the waste of time, resources and money.

▶ Too many patients receive unnecessary placebo, or treatment which is incorrect or suboptimal – leading to the waste of health and life.

When new results are not placed in the context of earlier similar trials in a systematic and transparent way:

▶ New results of a single study will bias the real results based upon all similar trials including the new study.

▶ Medical reversal will happen as new interventions may be introduced.

▶ The recommendation that further studies are needed may be wrong and lead to new redundant studies.

EVBRES participants at the first Workshop meeting in Bergen, Norway. February 2019