



Foundation for the Development of Internal Medicine in Europe

FDIME

Activities 2025

Daniel Sereni
President FDIME



FDIME

- Created in 2003 by EFIM
- Registered in Switzerland
- Current Management Team:
 - D. Sereni, P
 - R. Pujol and S. Lindgren, VP
 - JW. Elte, SG
 - I. Hatem, Treas.
- Board: F. Bosch, V. Briner, N. Cappellini, L. Dagna, C. Davidson, B. de Halleu, L. Guillevin, R. Palsson

FDIME Main activities

- Organizes the Clinical Research Seminar
 - 30 000 euros budget
 - >300 Young Internists have participated !
- Offers 4 ESIM Bursaries per year
- Supports YI exchange program (5000 euros)
- Supports poster prizes at ECIM
- Supports Clinical Research with annual grants



Support for Young Internists

- Best abstracts Awards, ECIM 2025, Florence
 - Aurora Merola It
 - Leslie Naesens B
 - Alfredo Caturano It
- 4 ESIM bursaries
 - Marijana Kacarska Geshoski (North Macedonia)
 - Xhekia Habilaj (Albania)
 - Nino Sikharuliz (Georgia)
 - Mariam Youssef (Egypt)
- 4000 euros support to the EFIM Young Internists exchange Program



Support for Young Internists

- New research grant dedicated to
Research on AI use in Internal Medicine

10 000 Euros

Dr Christel Gerardin

“Development and Evaluation of an AI-Powered Diagnostic Support System for Internal Medicine with a Focus on Rare Diseases “



Clinical Research Seminar

From 6 to 8 October 2024 In Paris

- All expenses covered by the Foundation (30 KE)
- 10 academic speakers
- One patient representative
- Participants
 - 41 applicants
 - 15 accepted
 - 9 countries



Clinical Research Seminar topics

- Protection of persons in clinical research
- A patient's representative point of view
- How to deal with sample size and power
- Clinical epidemiology
- How to build a clinical trial
- Research in rare diseases



Clinical Research Seminar topics

- Genetic research in Iceland
- Analyzing a clinical paper
- High yield tips in grant application writing
- Artificial Intelligence tools for therapeutic reasoning support
- Short presentations of their own experience in research by all residents



EFIM

European Federation of Internal Medicine





FDIME

- **Is the voice of Internists in informing the public on health issues**
 - Newsletters
 - Health communications
 - EFIM-FDIME session in ECIM



Health Communications 2025

- What is Lyme disease?
- Ways to motivate older adults to exercise
- Systemic Lupus Erythematosus
- Eight foods essential for your health
- Osteoporosis



FDIME Project

ALETHEIA

A clinical Decision Support system

Safer and faster Diagnosis in Internal Medicine



- Internists are Experts in Diagnosis
“Diagnosticians”
- Clinical Diagnosis remains imperfect
 - Medical errors
 - Delayed diagnosis
 - Specificities of Diagnosis in Internal Medical
 - Multi Morbidity
 - Complex situations
 - Rare diseases in adults
 - Increasing complexity of diagnosis procedures



The ALETHEIA Project

- **“AI enhanced Diagnostic tool in Internal Medicine”,**
- FDIME collaborates with an IT company using AI
“SQUIRRO”
 - A 3 phases project
 - 1 Building of prototype : feeding and teaching the system
 - 2 Testing and improving in a small number of IM departments
 - 3 Development and testing at a larger scale
- **FDIME finds the financial support**
- **EFIM has endorsed the project providing more credibility and legitimacy to the fundraising effort**



The ALETHEIA Project

- **LLM based diagnostic reasoning system** has been integrated with
 - International medical databases
 - thesaurus
 - clinical guidelines ,
 - medical literature (Pubmed..)
 - specific ontologies like Orphanet
- analyses Clinical, Laboratory and Imaging results of the case
- gives **5 diagnosis hypothesis ranked by probability** with physiopathology justifications and directions

Final decision is made by the physician



The ALETHEIA Project

Phase I

Diagnostic tool has been tested by senior internists on

124 complex case reports

- 10 “real world cases”
 - 34 challenging clinical cases from a French contest
 - 73 NEJM clinical records
 - 7 Case Reports from previous ECIM
 - Score given by experts performing the tests: **mean 4.17/5**
(3.96-4.38)
- Superior to ChatPGT 5 on a sample of 10 cases

Prototype ready for Phase II

What comes next?



- Phase II
 - Testing the tool in different settings and countries
 - Involving 50 – 100 internists (EFIM network)
 - measure accuracy compared to final diagnosis in real life
 - Measure feasibility and usability
- Phase III
 - Fine tuning of the tool with clinicians
 - Workload assessment
 - Ethical evaluation
 - Submission for authorisation as a Medical Device



EFIM

an essential partner

- Provide scientific resources
 - Expertise needed during development
 - Network of clinicians evaluating the project
- Communication with local internists and authorities
- Participate in the Clinical Research setting and follow up
- Submission to Ethical Committees



Budget

- **FDIME**
 - has covered all phase I expenses (130 KE)
 - Is grateful to
 - Dr Gerardin as medical coordinator
 - Squirro for minimising costs
- **Phase II and III**
 - Estimated budget >500 KE
 - FDIME has launched a fundraising campaign
 - All supports are welcome!