

NEWSLETTER February 2015

Dear SWEET members, partners, and friends,

February turns out to be a busy month with the preparation of our upcoming SWEET meeting in Paris and several new activities: An important topic at the SWEET meeting will be data evaluation in light of benchmarking and new research projects. You will have the opportunity to present (data of) your centre at the meeting. In addition, we would like to draw your attention to the Type 1 Diabetes Challenge. Young people with type 1 diabetes from your centre will have the opportunity to participate in this hiking tour on Crete. The challenge will take place in cooperation with SWEET and is sponsored by Sanofi. Finally, we would like to update you on our growing network and some new publications.

We specified several action items. Please read them carefully and do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or feedback.

With best wishes,

Katharina Klee on behalf of the SWEET team from Hannover

Action items

- Upload your data to SWEETBASE for analysis until February 28th
- Contribute to the SWEET Meeting in Paris by presenting your centre with benchmarking data. Please notify us latest February 28th if you are interested in presenting data (sweet-project@hka.de). The benchmarking reports will be distributed in the beginning of next week.
- Print your benchmarking report and bring it with you to the meeting in Paris if you attend

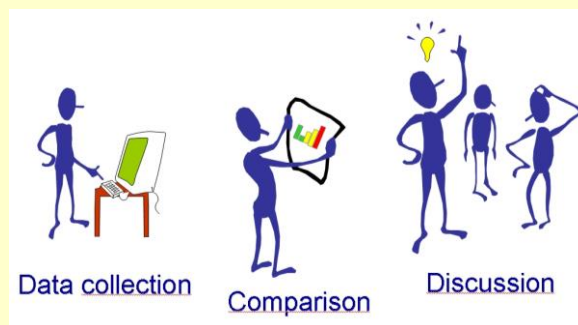
SWEET Meeting in Paris, France: March 19th & 20th, 2015

The sixth legal entity meeting of SWEET e.V. is dedicated to our growing data collection: 1) many possibilities of evaluation arise and lead to various scientific projects, 2) data quality and quantity increases and allows for excellent benchmarking and the possibility to learn from each other. Therefore, we would like to invite 3 centres to **present their data and benchmarking report** at the upcoming SWEET meeting. Three courageous volunteers are sought; we would be very happy, if you could notify us about your interest before February 28th. The presentation of centres is planned to become a regular topic for the SWEET meetings and we would like to officially start with it this year!

Data-related topics at the SWEET meeting include:

- Data management with DPV and benchmarking
- Data presentation of three centres and discussion
- Scientific projects
- SWEET Peer Review experiences and key findings

In addition, the SWEET Committee Members will be elected at this meeting and SWEET's progress and future strategies will be discussed.



Type 1 Diabetes Challenge

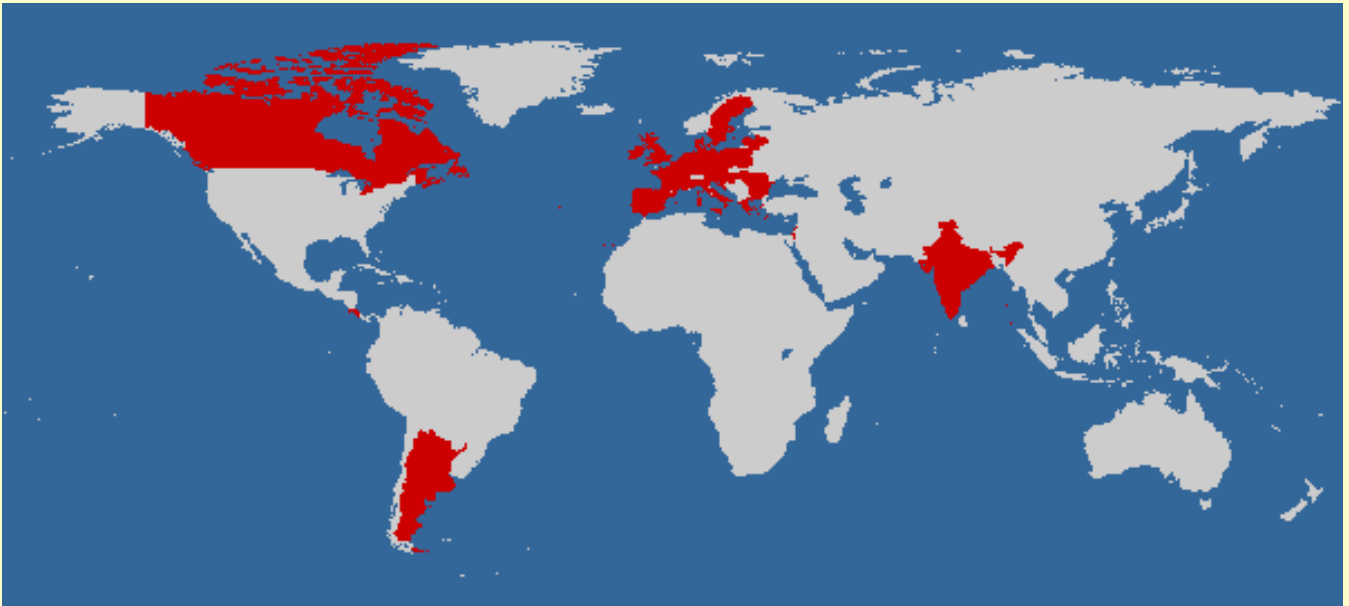


We are proud to announce that Sanofi is partnering with the World Diabetes Tour and SWEET e.V. to support the "Type 1 Diabetes Challenge 2015" on Crete, Greece. From August 24th to 28th an international team of young people with type 1 diabetes will hike through the White Mountains, the famous Samaria Gorge and on a seaside trek from Roumeli to Chora Sfakion. Together they aim to demonstrate a positive attitude towards type 1 diabetes and want to challenge other people with type 1 diabetes to look beyond their physical condition and get the most out of each opportunity. The team will consist of 11 young people representing at least 7 countries (chosen by Sanofi) and 5 physicians/coaches.

The challenge will be introduced by the organizers (Olga Kordonouri, Diana Vazaiou & Delfine Arduini) and Thomas Danne at the SWEET meeting in Paris, where we will have the opportunity to discuss and clarify details.

New SWEET Centres

The SWEET network is growing continuously and currently counts 23 certified centres: 12 Collaborative Centres and 11 Centres of Reference. An additional 16 centres are in the process of becoming certified SWEET centres and several new applications and expressions of interest have been received, including from Vienna, Austria; Manchester, UK; San Rosé, Costa Rica; Buenos Aires, Argentina. SWEET is as such expanding beyond Europe and promises thereby new insights in diabetes care contrasts across the world. Our mission remains the same: working together to achieve equal, high quality care for all children with diabetes mellitus and optimise as such the clinical outcomes in these children wherever they live.



SWEET Map: Countries which are represented in SWEET with 1-3 centres per country (red marked)

Activities and Publications

In December 2014 SWEET had again the opportunity to contribute with an article to the Newsletter of the European Paediatric Association (EPA), which will be published soon. EPA is a pan-European scientific association for clinically practicing general paediatricians, which represents 40 National Paediatric Societies and promotes child health and comprehensive paediatric care (Website: <http://www.epa-unepea.org/newsletters>). SWEET centres had the chance to contribute to the article by introducing their centre and describing their experience with SWEET. We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all centres that sent us their texts: Gothenburg (Sweden), Budapest (Hungary), Leuven (Belgium), Ancona and Florence (Italy). As we received more text than was possible to publish in the EPA newsletter, all articles will be published on the SWEET website soon.

The article also gives a general overview of SWEET, which reads as follows: Peer audited Centers of Reference (COR's) and Collaborative Centres (CC's) with a continuous electronic documentation of at least 150 paediatric patients with diabetes treated by a multidisciplinary team based on the ISPAD Clinical Practice recommendations have been created in 18 countries. Although these clinics should not be regarded as representative for the whole country, the acknowledgement as COR or CC includes a common objective of targets and guidelines as well as recognition of expertise in treatment and education at the centre. The corresponding SWEET Online platform currently enables 26 paediatric diabetes centres from 21 countries to connect to one unified diabetes database. Aggregate data is de-identified and exported for longitudinal health and economic data analysis and includes now more than 173,800 patient visits. The number of patients increased continuously: When in 2006 the register counted 1,201 patients, it is now up to 16,174 patients. Data are documented of 15,453 youth with type 1 diabetes, 210 with type 2 and 511 with other diabetes forms. The median age is 13.32 years and diabetes duration is 4.48 years. The median HbA1c is 7.8%. The number of valid HbA1c's in the data base rose from 4,377 (mean HbA1c: 7,5 %) in 2006 to 24,791 (7.9%) in 2013. Ongoing collection of benchmarking data motivates centres to improve data collection and to use them in quality control circles to exchange best practices in order to optimize their diabetes therapy. Through their network the COR's and CC's wish to obtain political power on a national and international level and to facilitate dissemination of new approaches and techniques. SWEET hopes to continue extending their group of centres within countries, throughout Europe and beyond.