

# Greek Precision Medicine Network on Cancer

Kostas Stamatopoulos  
INAB | CERTH

the most excellent thing for the physician is  
to **cultivate prognosis**

for by **foreseeing and foretelling** he will be  
acquainted with the circumstances of the sick

*Hippocrates*

the good physician treats the disease

***the great physician treats  
the patient who has the disease***

*William Osler, 1908*

the essence of  
deductive reasoning

from the general to the  
*particular*

particular

*synonyms*

certain, detailed, exact

is medicine an  
exact science?

to a certain extent yes,  
to a certain extent no

some parts are highly exact  
others much less so

*L. King, 1952*

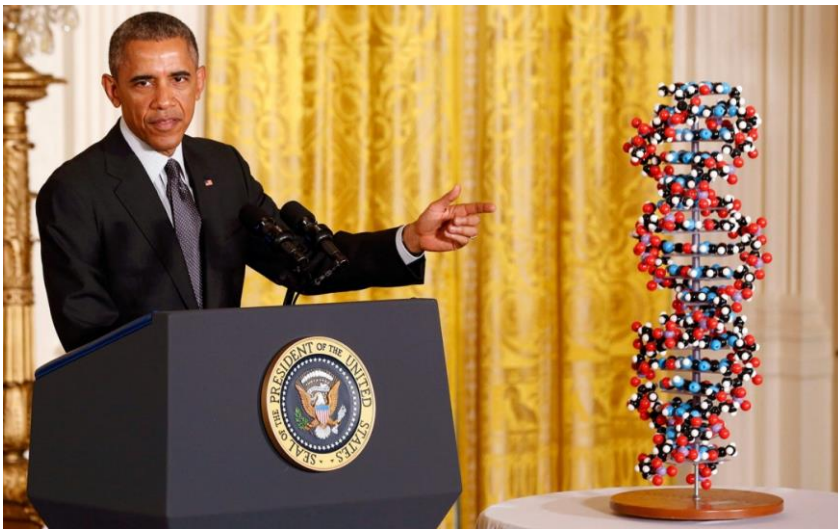


does medicine have the same degree of predictive accuracy as physics?

obviously, no

*but whoever claimed that it did or should?*

*L. King, 1952*



*“Tonight I’m launching a new Precision Medicine Initiative to bring us closer to curing diseases like cancer and diabetes.*

*And to give us all access to the personalized information we need to keep ourselves and our families healthier.”*

Precision  
Medicine  
Initiative

**President Barack Obama**  
2015 State of the Union Address | January 20, 2015

**Precision medicine** is an emerging approach for disease prevention and treatment that takes into account people's individual variations in genes, environment, and lifestyle.

The **time is right** because of:

Sequencing  
of the human  
genome



Improved  
technologies for  
biomedical analysis



New tools  
for using large  
datasets



THE PRECISION MEDICINE INITIATIVE®



why precision  
medicine in cancer?

# an urgent global need

Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) kill 40 million people each year, equivalent to 70% of all deaths globally.

Each year, 15 million people die from a NCD between the ages of 30 and 69 years.

Cardiovascular diseases, respiratory diseases, diabetes and **cancer** account for over 80% of all premature NCD deaths.

Detection, screening and treatment of NCDs, as well as palliative care, are key components of the response to NCDs.



# GLOBAL ACTION PLAN

FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES

2013-2020



World Health  
Organization

TOGETHER

WE CAN PREVENT AND CONTROL

**THE WORLD'S MOST COMMON DISEASES**

The challenge is unprecedented -- a 25% reduction by 2025 in premature deaths from noncommunicable diseases.

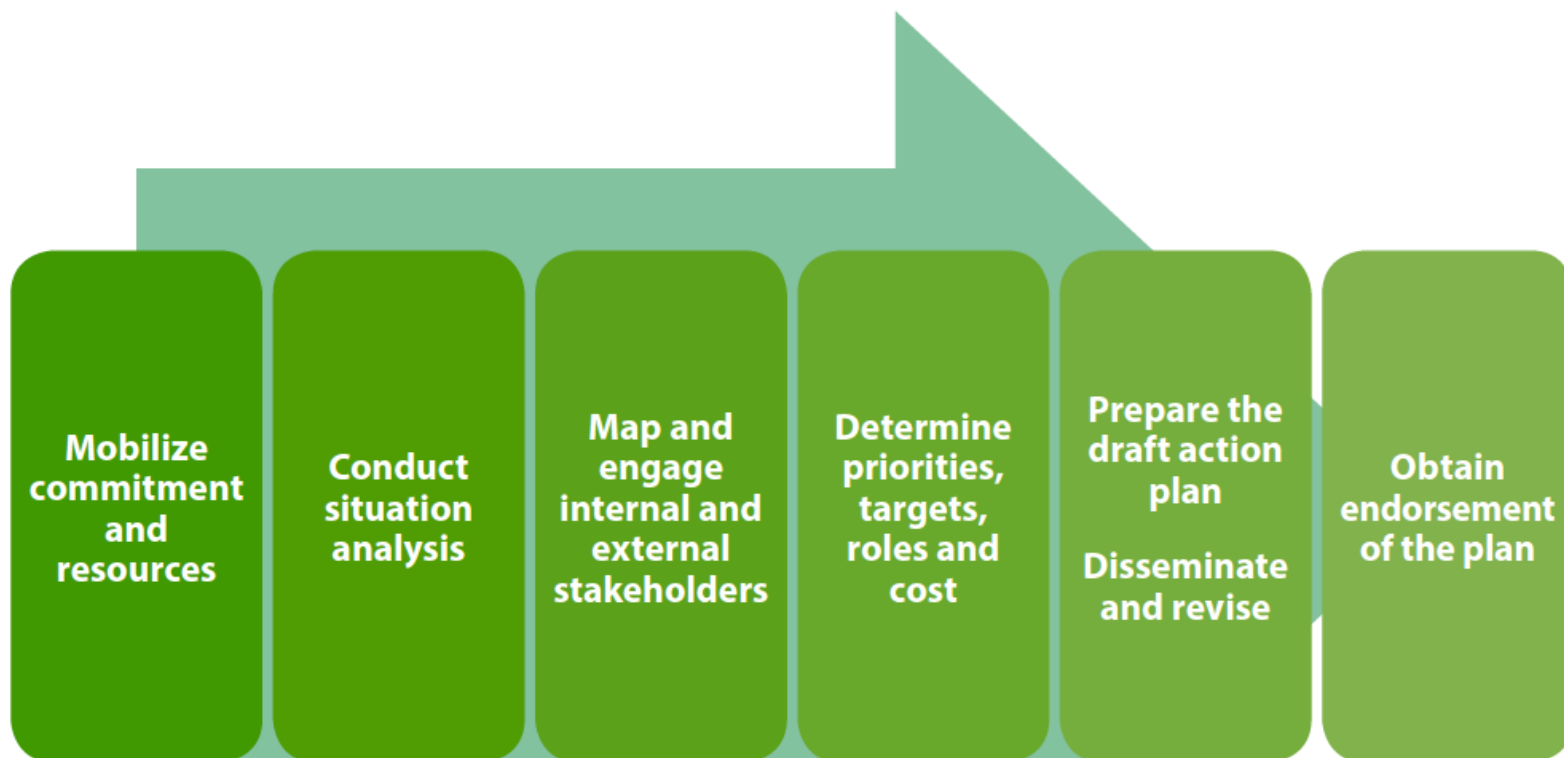
# Critical factors in developing a national intersectoral action plan



World Health  
Organization



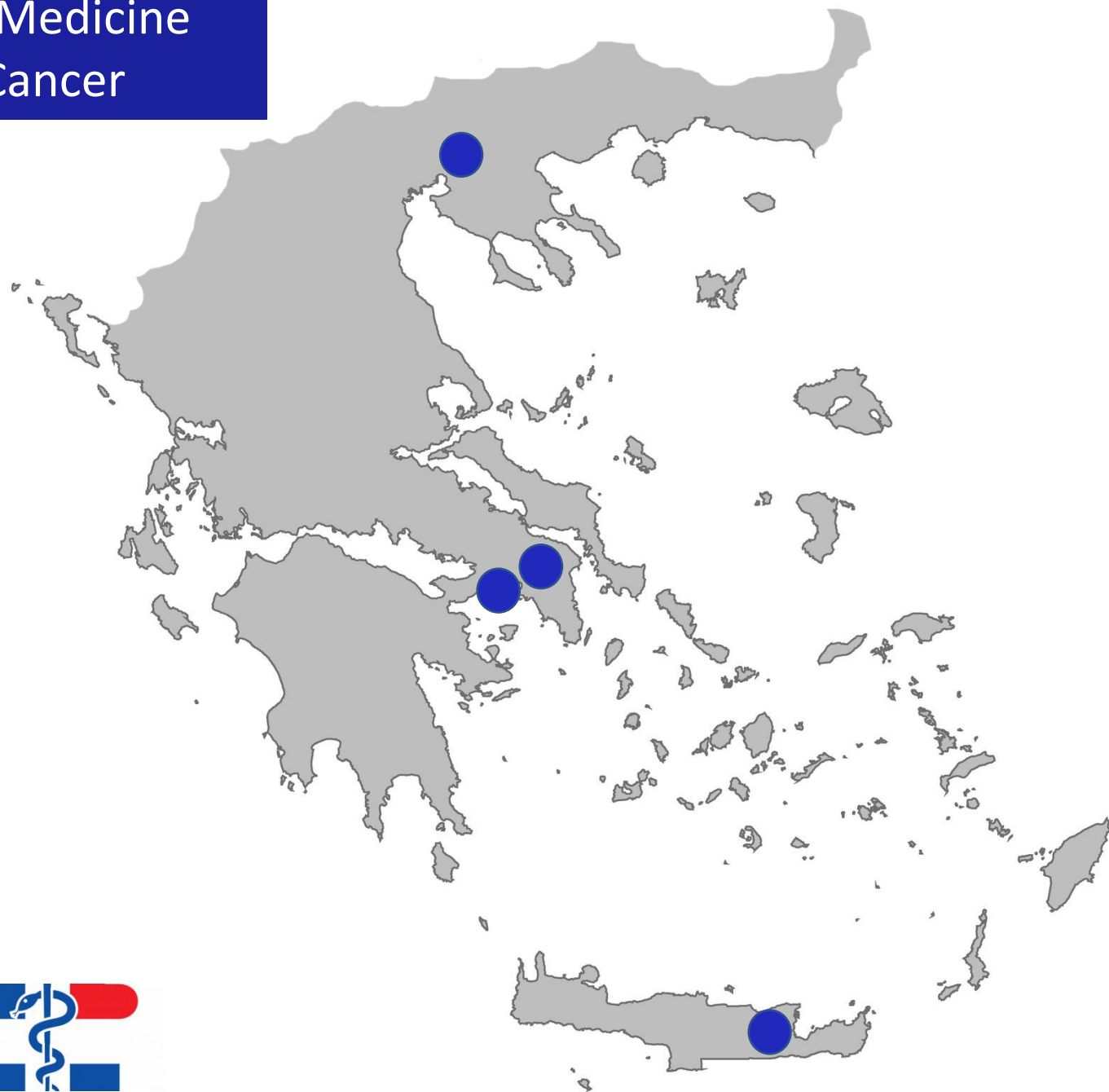
# Critical steps in developing a national intersectoral action plan



# Greek Precision Medicine Network on Cancer



# Greek Precision Medicine Network on Cancer



what do we want  
to achieve?

# *to offer all cancer patients in Greece*

The best available diagnostics – using next-generation sequencing technologies

Precision medicine – the right treatment to the right patient

Through a national effort offer equal care independent of healthcare region

Build a unique research resource

# metrics and timeline

5.4 M for 2018-2020

4 Units

7 research centers

4 universities

9 different disciplines  
(so far)

Phase A

M1-M6

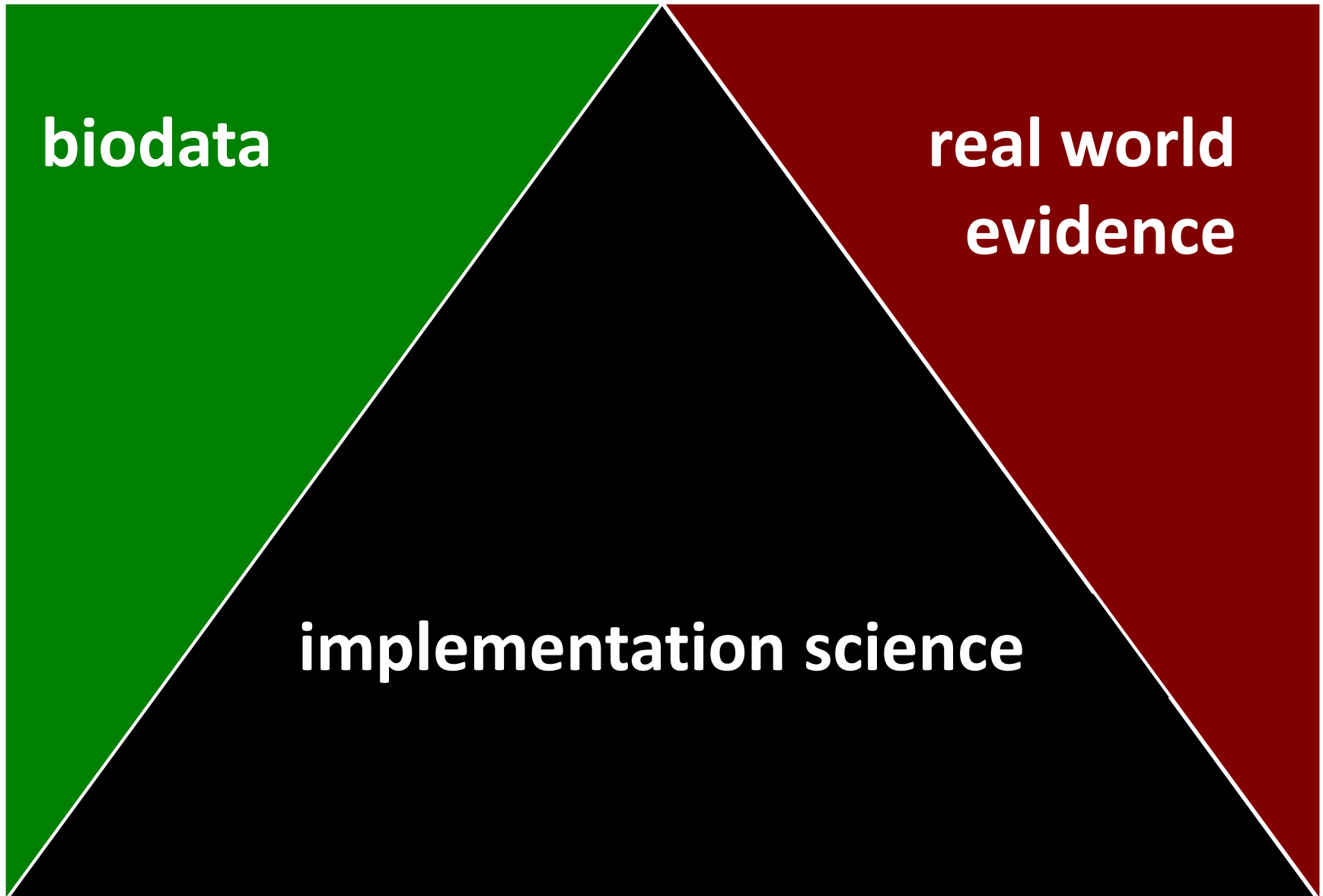
Phase B

M7-M24



strategy

# Critical components to precision medicine





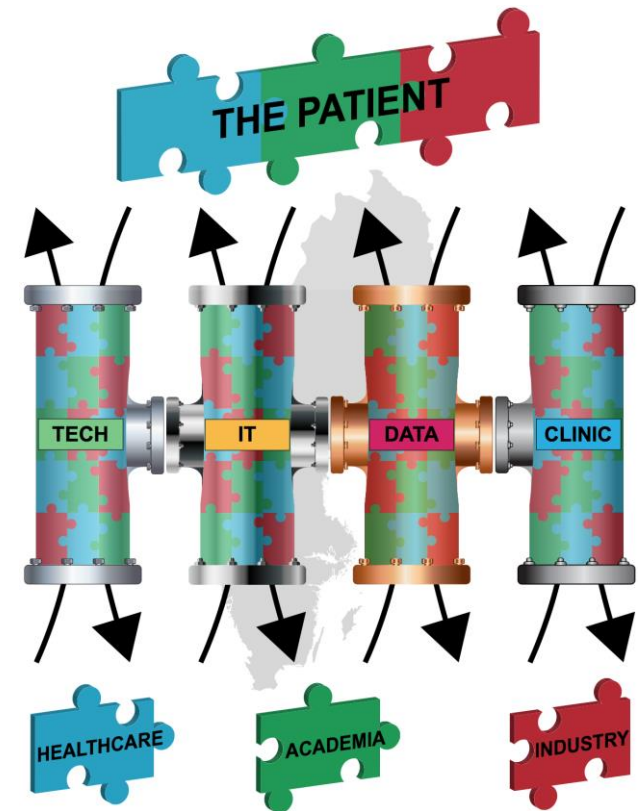
# Collaboration between **academia**, **healthcare** and **industry**

Closer cooperation between diagnostics labs and  
treatment clinics  
clinical trial units  
pharma and biotech industry

Streamlined IT infrastructure

Clinical interpretation teams

Excellent pilot studies!



# Phase A

**M1-M6**

standardization

interlaboratory  
quality control

Networking

national | **pMED-GR**

international



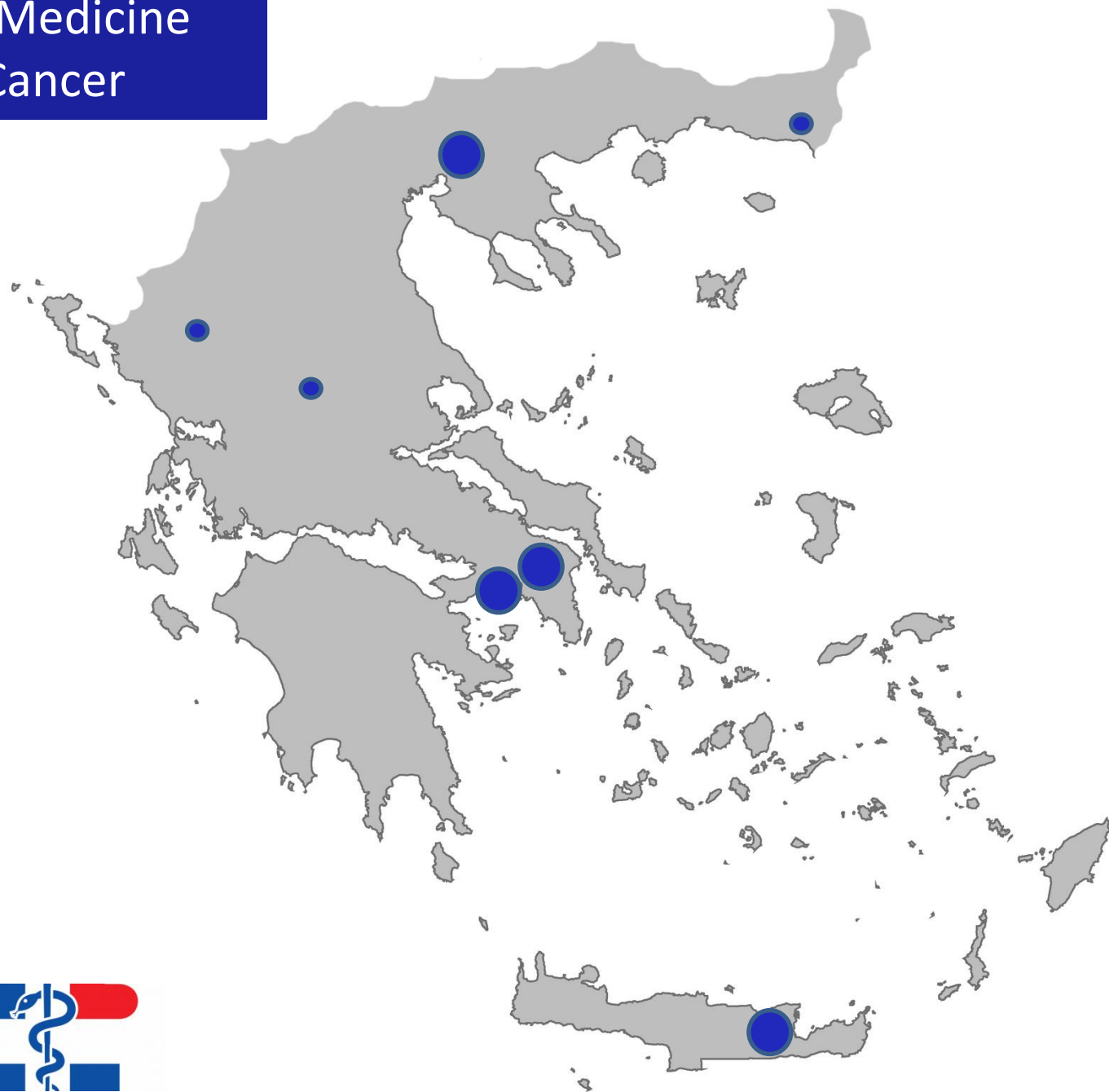
# Links to European initiatives

COUNTRY	COMPANY/INSTITUTION	TIME	SCOPE	FUNDING	PROGRESS	MEDICAL FOCUS
ENGLAND	Genomics England Ltd. (GeL)	2013-2018	100,000 genomes	£411 M	~34,000 genomes	Rare Diseases Cancer
SCOTLAND	The Scottish Genomes Partnership (SGP)	2015-perpetual	~3,000 genomes	£23 M	~3,000 genomes	Rare Diseases Cancer Population Studies
THE NETHERLANDS	Hartwig Medical Foundation (HMF)	2015-2017	>10,000 cancer patients	€30 M	~3,000 patients	Cancer
FRANCE	France Médecine Genomique (AVIESAN)	2015-2025	235,000 WGS/annum by 2020	€670 M (-2020)	Two platforms selected	Rare Diseases Cancer
IRELAND	Genomics Medicine Ireland (GMI)	2016-perpetual	45,000 genomes	\$40 M	Incorporated Series A	Population studies Rare Diseases
SWITZERLAND	Swiss Personalized Health Network (SPHN)	2017-2020	Informatics structure	CHF 68	Funding calls	Rare Diseases Cancer Infectious Diseases Rare Diseases
FINLAND	Finland's Genome Strategy (FGS)	2017-2020	National infrastructure (operational by 2020)	€17 M (Request for €50 M)	Planning phase	Cancer Pharmacogenetics Genetic Risk Susceptibility Rare Diseases
NORWAY	The Norwegian Strategy for Personalised Medicine in Healthcare	2017-2021	<13,000 WGS/annum	NOK 8 M (pre-analysis)	Planning phase	Rare Diseases Cancer Infectious Diseases Rare Diseases
DENMARK	National Strategy for Personalized Medicine (Per Med)	2017-2020 2020-perpetual	~100,000 genomes	DKK 5 M (pre-analysis) DKK 100 M	Initiated	Cancer Diabetes Companion Dx Rare Diseases
SWEDEN	Genomic Medicine Sweden	2017-2023	~25,000 genomes/annum	SEK 4 M (pre-analysis)	Planning phase	Cancer Complex Disease Microbiome

Cyprus, Serbia, Slovenia, Hungary, Czech Republic

next steps

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EPEYNA  
& KAINOTOMIA

ΓΓΕΤ  
ΓΕΝΙΚΗ ΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΕΙΑ  
ΕΡΕΥΝΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΤΕΧΝΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ



# Phase B

state-of-the-art  
NGS-based  
diagnosis

translational  
research

the entire national  
health ecosystem  
as a potential  
'customer' and  
biodata provider



# vision

the entire national  
health ecosystem  
as a potential  
'customer' and  
biodata provider



a secret for success?



collaborate and  
involve all relevant  
stakeholders

Medicine is of all the Arts the most noble  
but, owing to the ignorance of those who  
practice it, and of those who,  
inconsiderately, form a judgment of them, it  
is at present behind all the arts

*Hippocrates*

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