What are European Reference Networks?
European Reference Networks (ERNs) are virtual networks involving Reference Centres of expertise across Europe. The purpose of ERNs is to provide all patients with rare diseases better access to quality diagnosis, treatment and care. This is achieved by centralizing knowledge and experience, medical research and training, and resources in the area of rare or low prevalence complex or rare diseases and conditions.

What is ERN-LUNG?
ERN-LUNG stands for the European Reference Network on rare respiratory diseases. It is a non-profit, patient-centric and scientific network of European Healthcare Providers (HCPs) and patient organizations. It is committed Europe-wide and globally to reducing mortality caused by rare respiratory diseases and decreasing the burden experienced by patients of all ages as a result of their disease, through patient care, advocacy, education, research and knowledge-sharing.

ERN-LUNG is made up of 9 Core Networks representing the diversity of diseases and conditions affecting the lungs, and 9 Functional Committees that coordinate transversal activities affecting all of the current and future Core Networks.

Where can you find us?
ERN-LUNG has 72 collaborating reference centers (HCPs) in 17 EU countries, and 21 patient advocacy organizations (European and global).
Seeking expert opinion?

With the Online Expert Advice System (EXABO), patients and clinicians can address all kinds of questions relating to any rare disease of the respiratory system to ERN-LUNG experts who are specialized and experienced in this field. If the patient’s problem has not been addressed within the national part of EXABO, any doctor can ask for virtual consultation of ERN-LUNG reference centers via the Clinical Patient Management System (CPMS). This IT platform will enable a MultiDisciplinary Team (MDT) to discuss highly specialized patient cases in a secure environment. The resulting advice can then be directly referred back to the patient by their own treating physician.