The ECFS Diagnostic Network Working Group had a short business meeting during the NACFC at Minneapolis, USA, at Oct 15 2009.

Main topics were the EuroCareCF final report, for which workpackage 3 (Coordination of Clinical Research) and the ECFS DN WG contribute deliverable 4a (new diagnostic methods). The publication is intended to be a supplement to the JCF in early 2010. Specific sub-topics including NPD, ICM and genetics will be covered. Deliverable 8 (CFTR-RD) was also discussed and it was agreed to contribute a summary of unresolved issues.

Another topic was the planning of the next group meeting in Paris, which will be held Feb 12-13, 2010.

Regarding the standardization process for NPD and ICM within both the DN working group and the ECFS CTN standardization committee, it was suggested to specify these activities according to 2 main goals:

1) to provide NPD/ICM SOPs for the performance of clinical trials (coordination: ECFS CTN)
2) to provide NPD/ICM guidelines for difficult CF diagnosis (coordination: ECFS DN WG)

Both groups and committees will closely work together. The development of SOPs for clinical trials will be closely adjusted with the CFF TDN.

Michael Wilschanski, Nico Derichs