

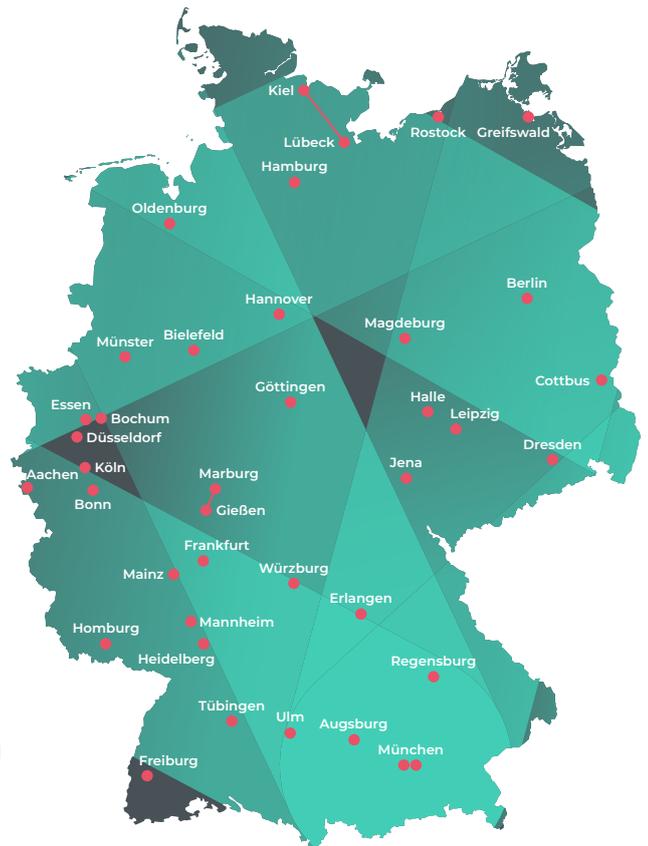
# Connecting research. Improving health.



## What is the NUM?

The Network of University Medicine (NUM) was founded in April 2020 with project funding from the Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space (BMFTR) to coordinate the clinical COVID-19 research across all academic medical centres. Now, the NUM supports the entire spectrum of clinical research. Scientists from all 37 German academic medical centres work together in interdisciplinary research projects. To this end, the network provides all researchers with a nationwide, openly accessible research and data infrastructure for cross-location projects.

- 37** participating academic medical centres = 12 percent of acute in-patient care in Germany
- 43** academic biobanks at all 37 NUM sites (plus Bremen)
- 772** million euros funding over 10,25 years (April 2020 – June 2030)
- over 6,000** registered users on the NUM web platform (researchers, administrators)



As of November 2025

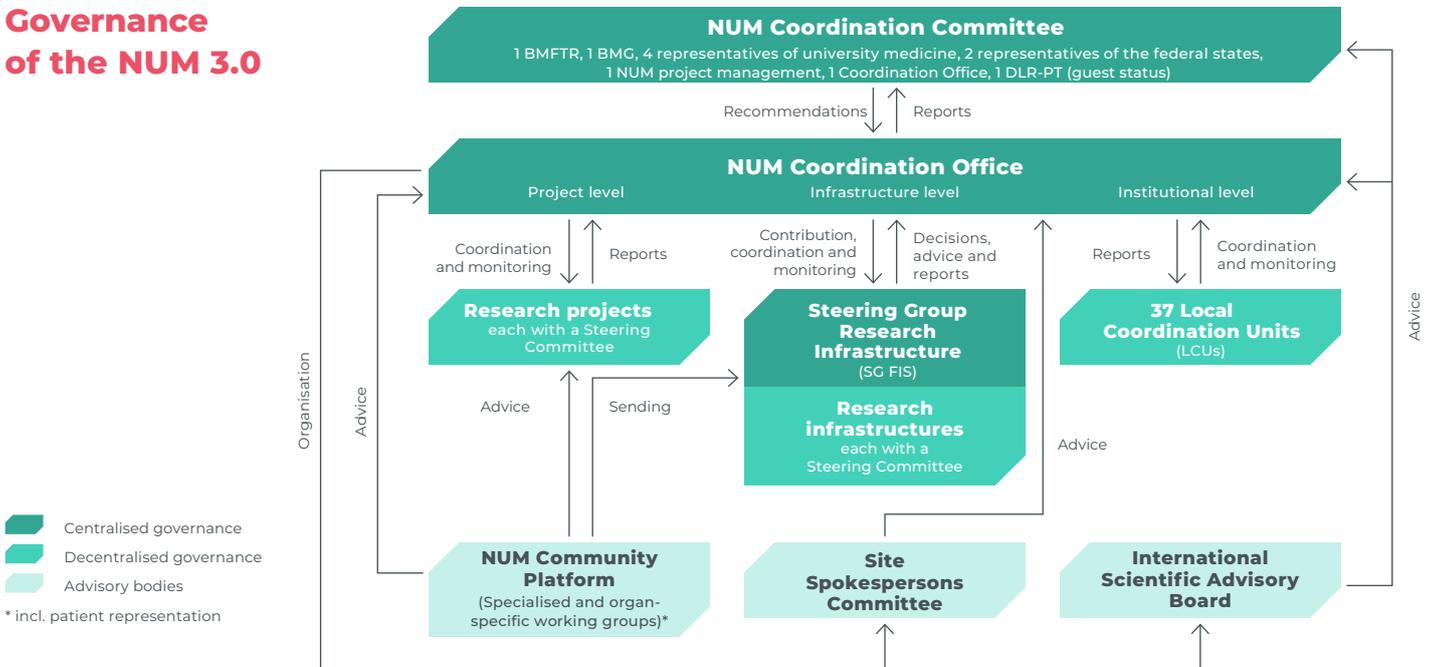
## Goals and tasks

- Establishment and maintenance of a nationwide study and data space compatible with the European Health Data Space (EHDS). This will make biological samples and clinical data from patient care available for research and, at the same time, further develop the conditions for conducting large, cross-site clinical studies. This includes networking the decentralised biobanks at the 37 NUM sites to form a powerful national biobank platform.
- Preparing clinical research for future pandemics and other major public health crises, e.g., through the ability to generate evidence quickly and by supporting monitoring and surveillance.
- Forming the central point of contact for university medicine at the federal level for all aspects of clinical research, in order to provide stakeholders with fast and efficient access to the entirety of German university medicine.

## Network partners:

- Uniklinik RWTH Aachen
- Universitätsklinikum Augsburg
- Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin
- Universität Bielefeld mit Medizinischer Fakultät und UK OWL
- Universitätsklinikum der Ruhr-Universität Bochum
- Universitätsklinikum Bonn
- Medizinische Universität Lausitz – Carl Thiem
- Universitätsklinikum Carl Gustav Carus Dresden
- Universitätsklinikum Düsseldorf
- Universitätsklinikum Erlangen
- Universitätsklinikum Essen
- Universitätsklinikum Frankfurt
- Universitätsklinikum Freiburg
- Universitätsklinikum Gießen und Marburg
- Universitätsmedizin Göttingen
- Universitätsmedizin Greifswald
- Universitätsklinikum Halle
- Universitätsklinikum Hamburg-Eppendorf
- Medizinische Hochschule Hannover
- Universitätsklinikum Heidelberg
- Universitätsklinikum Jena
- Uniklinik Köln
- Universitätsklinikum Leipzig
- Universitätsklinikum Magdeburg
- Universitätsmedizin Mainz
- Klinikum Mannheim Universitätsklinikum
- Klinikum der LMU München
- Klinikum rechts der Isar der Technischen Universität München
- Universitätsklinikum Münster
- Universitätsmedizin Oldenburg
- Universitätsklinikum Regensburg
- Universitätsmedizin Rostock
- Universitätsklinikum des Saarlandes
- Universitätsklinikum Schleswig-Holstein
- Universitätsklinikum Tübingen
- Universitätsklinikum Ulm
- Universitätsklinikum Würzburg

## Governance of the NUM 3.0



## Organisation

The NUM is organised by a coordination office at Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin. It is supported by a National Coordination Committee (NKA), which includes the BMFTR and the BMG, among others. The coordination office and NKA are responsible for strategic orientation, budget management and other overarching aspects of the entire network. Each of the 37 participating academic medical centres has a Local Coordination Unit (LCU) that coordinates the administrative implementation of the numerous NUM research projects on site. Scientific and strategic advice to the NUM Coordination Office and the NUM Coordination Committee is provided by an international Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), the NUM Community Platform (advisory board) and the committee of site spokespersons. The network works closely with other stakeholders, expert networks, specialist groups and initiatives in the field of clinical research and pandemic preparedness.

## Research infrastructures in the NUM

At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Germany lacked the necessary platforms to collect and store treatment data and biosamples in a structured manner across locations and to make them available for scientific use. The NUM has either built the necessary platforms and infrastructures from scratch or

expanded existing structures. These research infrastructures support the various research projects within the NUM with methodological expertise, data management and high-quality research data. Since medical research data is extremely heterogeneous, there is no 'one size fits all' infrastructure that can be used for all clinical research data. The NUM has therefore established research infrastructures for different types of data, different methods of data collection and different treatment settings. In the current funding phase, there are 11 research infrastructures within the NUM. To ensure that these partial solutions complement each other optimally and are compatible at their interfaces, they all work on the basis of the 'FAIR principles' (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable). In the NUM, the research infrastructures are operated on a permanent basis and continuously developed. The aim is to turn them into a platform on which all types of clinical and clinical-epidemiological research questions can be addressed. Any remaining gaps in data availability are to be gradually closed. In line with the open science concept, all NUM data and platforms are available for broad use by the entire scientific community.

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