

Green Healthcare

GOOD PRACTICES OF GREEN HEALTHCARE AROUND THE EU



FINNISH RESEARCH IS AIMED AT SUSTAINABLE DRUG DEVELOPMENT AND A CLEANER ENVIRONMENT

The SUDDEN project led by Professor Jari Yli-Kauhaluoma of the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Helsinki aims to address environmental threats related to the manufacture, use and disposal of medicines.

The environmental risks posed by drug residues from pharmaceuticals have increased both locally and globally. Emissions are produced throughout the pharmaceutical life cycle, from its development to its disposal. Societal changes, such as urbanisation, population growth and aging, are accelerating the accumulation of drug residues in the environment. The SUDDEN (Sustainable Drug Discovery and Development with End-of-Life Yield) project seeks to address environmental threats and tackle the sustainable development challenges related to the manufacture, use, and disposal of medicines.

The project explores critical aspects of drug development from a sustainable perspective, answering questions such as, how can we make pharmaceuticals as environmentally friendly as possible? How can the environmental risks of pharmaceuticals be better anticipated? How can we support sustainable growth in the pharmaceutical sector? How can we improve the removal of drug residues from wastewater and promote the recycling of pharmaceutical packaging materials?

To achieve these goals SUDDEN is developing tools, solutions, and policy recommendations. Some of the latest publications and findings include; Sustainable medicine packaging is based on aluminum recycling; Components of sustainable public procurement of medicines; or Techniques for the removal of drugs from municipal wastewater.

SUDDEN is funded by the Strategic Research Council of the Academy of Finland from 2018 to 2021 and from 2022 to 2023. The project is carried out by the University of Helsinki, University of Eastern Finland, Lappeenranta-Lahti University of Technology LUT, Aalto University, Finnish Environment Institute and Demos Helsinki.

More information at the following [Link](#).

