**Quick Check**

We have developed this Quick Check to reduce the time and effort required on your part. Please work through it before filling in the invention disclosure form. If you have ticked one or more underlined answers in the Quick Check form, please contact

Dr. Katharina Krüger (phone:83-32941;Krueger.AFO@uni-muenster.de)

or

**for the Faculty of Medicine**: Clinic Invent (phone: 0251 - 8358904).

If you have ticked only non-underlined answers, you can continue by filling in the invention disclosure form.

**Please indicate in which way you have publicized your invention so far:**

print media (articles, papers, abstracts ...)  talk, lecture

dissertation  conference, fair

bachelor’s or master’s thesis  homepage, internet, newsgroups

other (e.g. poster)  not at all

**Please specify the position you held at the University of Münster (WWU) at the time of your invention:**

professor / lecturer  “Wissenschaftliche(r) Mitarbeiter(in)”

student assistant  research assistant

scholarship holder  doctoral student

student  “Assistent(in)”

other kind of employee/civil servant  other

no affiliation to the WWU

**Did you make the invention while you were working on official university business or is your invention based on know-how acquired or work carried out in your university position?**

yes  no

**Will be filled in by the University of Münster**

received in writing on: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

if incomplete:

notified that incomplete on: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

confirmed that complete on: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

forwarded to **** PROvendis

**** Clinic Invent on: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

can be disclosed on: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

To:

The Rector of the

Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität

attn. Dr. Katharina Steinberg

Dezernat 6

Schlossplatz 2

48149 Münster

Germany

**Invention Disclosure**

Only send in a sealed envelope,

do not send via email  
and do not store in a cloud!

**Content:**

Part A: General information on the invention

Part B: General information on the inventor/s

Part C: Description of the invention

Part D: Description of the market potential of the invention

Part E: Statement of the inventor/s

Part F: Confirmation by the university institution

Part G: Assignment of invention assessment

|  |
| --- |
| Part A: General information on the invention |

|  |
| --- |
| [A1] Short title of the invention (acronym):1 |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| [A2] Designation/title of the invention: |
|  |

[A3] When did your invention take shape?2

[A4] Have you already applied for a patent for your invention?3  yes  no

[A5] The invention was made in collaboration with other universities/research

institutes/companies  yes  no

If yes: which ones:

[A6] How many people have contributed to the invention?4

[A7] Have you publicized your invention?  yes  no

If yes:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | print media (articles, papers, abstracts etc.) |  | talk, lecture |
|  | internet (homepage, newsgroups etc.) |  | conference, fair |
|  | term paper, bachelor’s thesis, master’s thesis, etc.  other (e.g. poster) |  | dissertation |

**Please indicate the source or enclose a copy of the publication**:

[A8] Are you planning any publications on the invention within the next

four months?  yes  no

If yes: when and in which form (cf. A7):

[A9] Is the invention more  application-related?

related to basic research?

[A10] Have you talked with the WWU Patent Scout about this invention?  yes  no

|  |
| --- |
| Part B: General information on the inventor/s5 |

*Fill in this page completely for each person contributing to the invention.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [B1] Name and addresses | |
| Title/academic degree |  |
| last name |  |
| first name |  |
| nationality |  |
| occupation |  |
| university position |  |
| faculty/department/institute |  |
| university office address |  |
| phone |  |
| fax |  |
| e-mail address |  |
| home address |  |
| phone |  |
| fax |  |
| e-mail address |  |

[B2] My own contribution to the invention amounts to       %

[B3] The invention lies within my scope of work  yes  no

[B4] The invention was made in the context of my contract with the WWU  yes  no

[B5] The invention is largely based on knowledge and know-how available

in the university institution (department/institute)  yes  no

[B6] I was set the task that led to the invention  yes  no

[B7] The invention was made within the framework of my term paper/bachelor’s

master’s/doctoral thesis  yes  no

[B8] At present, I am employed by the WWU  yes  no

[B9] At the time when the invention was made, I was employed by another institution

or company  yes  no

[B10] Have external funds been spent for the invention?  yes  no

If no, please continue with [B 11].

If yes, please indicate the object account number (AObj.):

The invention was made in the context of a project that was publicly funded by

the *Land*  the state  the EU  other

My position was financed by this project.

The invention was made in cooperation with industry / an adviser contract.

partner

My position was financed by this project.

[B11] There is a legal/contractual agreement which obliges me to relinquish my rights to

the invention (if yes, please enclose a copy of the corresponding document/s)

yes  no

|  |
| --- |
| Part C: Description of the invention6 |

|  |
| --- |
| [C1.1] Which technical problem is the invention intended to solve? |
|  |

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| --- |
| [C1.2] Please describe the technological state-of-the-art with which you are familiar (regarding this problem)?7 |
|  |

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| --- |
| [C1.3] Which disadvantages do you perceive in the current state-of-the-art?8 |
|  |

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| --- |
| [C1.4] What is the purpose of your invention in this context?9 |
|  |

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| --- |
| [C1.5] What is new about your invention?10 |
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|  |
| --- |
| [C1.6] Which technical and commercial advantages does your invention have over existing technology?11 |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| [C2] Documents attached to this invention disclosure form:12, 16 |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| [C3] Please characterize your invention by key words:13, 16 |

German

                 

English

|  |
| --- |
| [C4] Please list some publications treating scientific, technical and commercial aspects of your invention. Please enclose them or send them by e-mail.16 |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Part D: Description of the market potential of the invention14, 16 |

[D1] The invention exists as a(n):

idea  experiment  sample  prototype

|  |
| --- |
| Description of the development stage of the invention: |
|  |

[D2] Do you wish to use the invention for the establishment of a business?  yes  no

If yes, please state the contact details of the founder of this business:

The WWU offers a free consultancy without further obligation on financing and funding opportunities. Do you wish such a consultancy with the start-up consultancy service of the Innovation Office (AFO)?  
  yes  no

[D3] Are you planning a project financed by external funds

which is based on this invention?  yes  no

|  |
| --- |
| [D4] What are the possible applications of your invention? |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| [D5] Which companies might be considered as potential licensees? |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| [D6] With which companies are you already in touch regarding the invention? |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| [D7] Which group of people or customers might profit from your invention? |
|  |

[D8] How do you estimate the market potential of your invention?

very high  high  average low

|  |
| --- |
| Part E: Statement of the inventor/s |

I/we declare that the information given above is complete and in accordance with the facts, that the invention described above was made by me/us, and that to my/our knowledge no other persons beyond those listed below play any part as inventors regarding this invention.

I/we have described the invention completely and comprehensively. I/we understand that all publications of the invention and all communication to third parties not bound to secrecy prevent a patent process and thus have to be refrained from until the patent has been filed.

I/we will not use the invention until it has been released.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(date) (signature/s)

In the case of several inventors: **contact person** for technical queries:

## Checklist

Please check the following points prior to forwarding the invention disclosure to the university:

The invention disclosure has been signed by me/by **all** inventors.

The contact details of **all** participating inventors (part B) are attached to the invention disclosure.

The invention disclosure has been printed out completely.

The invention disclosure is to be sent in a sealed envelope, addressed to the Rector of the university, attn. Frau Dr. Katharina Steinberg, Dez. 6, Schlossplatz 2, 48149 Münster, Germany.

|  |
| --- |
| Part F: Confirmation by the university institution15 |

[F1] We confirm that the inventor/s was/were employed by the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster at the time when the invention was made

first name last name

1.              yes  no

2.              yes  no

3.              yes  no

4.              yes  no

5.              yes  no

6.              yes  no

7.              yes  no

8.              yes  no

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

(date) (name) (signature of the head of the university institution)

[F2] There are third parties involved  yes  no

|  |
| --- |
| [F2.1] The following claims by third parties (provider of external funds/name of the project) exist: |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| [F2.2] The following contracts/agreements are enclosed: |
|  |

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

(date) (name) (signature of the head of the university institution)

|  |
| --- |
| Part G: Assignment of invention assessment17 |

[G1] The WWU assigns the task of assessing the invention described in the above invention disclosure to

PROvendis

Clinic Invent

Remarks:

place, date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

the Kanzler (Head of the University Administration)

(on behalf of the Rector)

pp

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Explanations regarding the form fields**

1 Give your invention a name. Enter a short description that makes the main point of your invention clear. The name will be used for the patent application!

2 Please indicate the period or the point in time that was decisive for laying the foundation for your invention. This can be either the moment you had a flash of inspiration or the period between the first idea and the invention’s technical realization.

This information is vital for the assessment of your rights and duties.

3 If you have already applied for a patent for your invention, or if the invention has only been provisionally registered for patent, as an employee of the university, you still have to report your invention to the university.

4 Please indicate the total number of persons that have contributed to the invention.

5 As inventors all those persons should be listed who have contributed significantly to the development of the invention. This can be a contribution of expertise, of factual information, or of an inventive element regarding the matter at hand.

Employees of the university must state their home addresses so that we can keep you informed regarding the progress of the proceedings. Please make sure that you inform us as quickly as possible of any changes that may occur.

Groups of inventors must state all relevant information for each university employee. If non-university inventors are involved, their private contact details are helpful but are not obligatory. For further processing, the address of the rights holder of any "external shares in the invention" is important (the same applies to "independent inventors"). Please come to an agreement with your fellow inventors on this issue.

You may hand in this information later!

Of course, all personal data will be treated confidentially and will, in the course of the assessment process, only be made available to authorized persons.

For groups of inventors, or for several inventors from one university, you can determine who will act as a contact person for technical queries.

6 This section concerns the most important part of your invention report: what did you invent? By answering the following questions, you enable others to understand the purpose and the advantage of your idea. If you have already written texts, or if you have made drawings or pictures, you can add these as supplements to your invention report. Please answer each individual question, regardless of the data you may have attached.

7 How was this problem solved before you made your invention? Which alternative methods already exist? Are there perhaps other methods that lead to comparable results or that come close to your invention?

An invention cannot be patented if its subject is already known. Therefore please check as soon as possible whether other solutions for the problem you are addressing already exist. The discovery that a solution for the problem already exists is not worthless as it saves you the unnecessary effort of developing your invention further.

8 What cannot be solved by the methods described under "current state-of-the-art"? What exactly are the limitations and constraints of the existing technology?

Please outline the weaknesses and disadvantages that result from using the current solutions to the problem your invention addresses.

9 Having described the disadvantages of existing technology, please describe in this section how your invention removes these disadvantages.

Do not only describe what your invention can do – but also how it does what it does.

10 Please state precisely what is new about your invention.

This question is of crucial relevance, as without a certain degree of newness a patent application is not possible. Please also consider that, sooner or later, there will be checks made as to whether the claims of former patents are touched upon by your invention.

11 Does the advantage of your invention perhaps lie in reduced costs or increased efficiency?

For which group of users do the advantages take effect? Would you in fact buy your own invention or the products subsequently developed on its basis?

12 If available, please attach to the invention disclosure any documents such as drawings, publications, and explanations etc. that may help us understand your invention.

13 For a patent research, key terms that describe your invention can be very helpful. Please try to characterize the essence of your invention and its potential fields of application as precisely as possible by using appropriate key words.

14 The better an invention is, the easier it is marketable. Where can your invention be utilized best, and where does it fully unfold its potential? Perhaps you already know companies that can make use of your invention? Companies that might be threatened by the commercialization of your invention may also be interested in a license, as no good business person leaves promising developments to competitors.

Information on end users makes it possible to draw conclusions as to the future commercialization, for example regarding the size of the respective market.

15 This will be filled in by the head of the university institution.

16 This information is not compulsory and the invention disclosure is considered complete without this information. However, having this information makes a quick and realistic assessment of your invention easier.

17 This will be filled in by the administration of the University of Münster.