



**Introduction to EATRIS ERIC**  
**European Infrastructure for Translational Medicine**

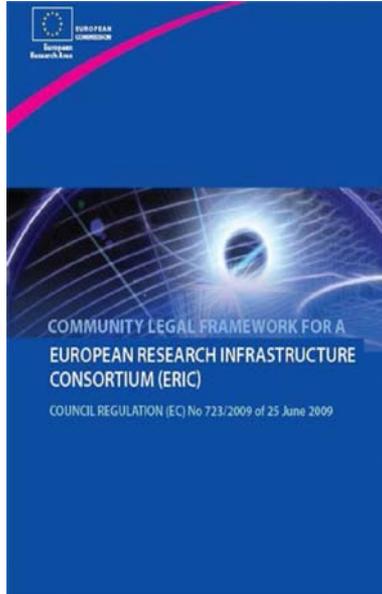
**March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
**Sofia, Bulgaria**



# ESFRI European Research Infrastructure

- Facilities, resources and services used by the research communities to **conduct research** and **foster innovation** in their fields.
- **Major scientific equipment** (or sets of instruments), **knowledge-based resources** such as collections, archives and scientific data, e-infrastructures

# European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC)



- A European joint-venture (also allows the participation of non-European countries)
- A legal capacity recognised in all EU Member States
- Flexibility to adapt to specific requirements of each infrastructure
- Part of wider ESFRI community
- Exemptions from VAT and excise duty

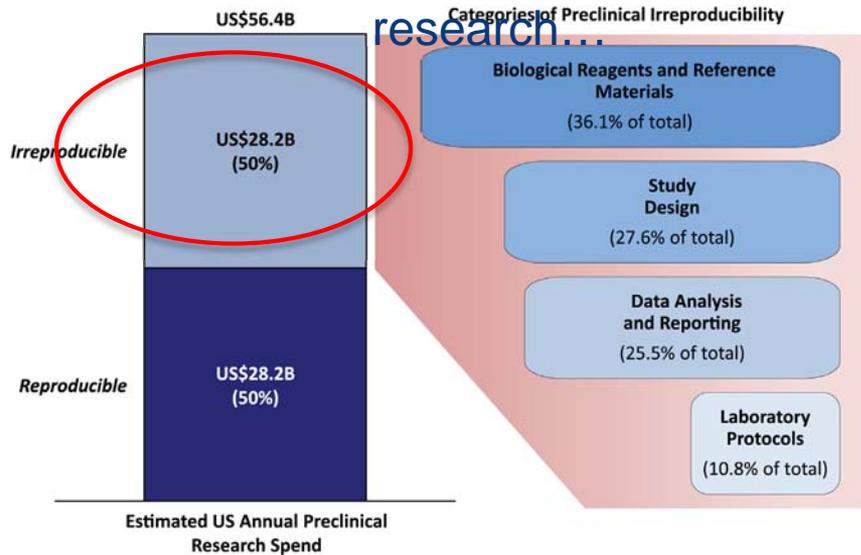
EATRIS is an ERIC since Jan 2014

# RI role in Europe

- High quality – state of the art facilities and resources across Member States
- Professional **access and services** (to researchers)
- **Capacity utilization** (EU-wide long term planning)
- Mandate to tackle systemic issues such as:
  - **Reproducibility**
  - **Standardisation and harmonization**
  - Improving our ability to generate knowledge & innovation

# Broken biomedical innovation pipeline

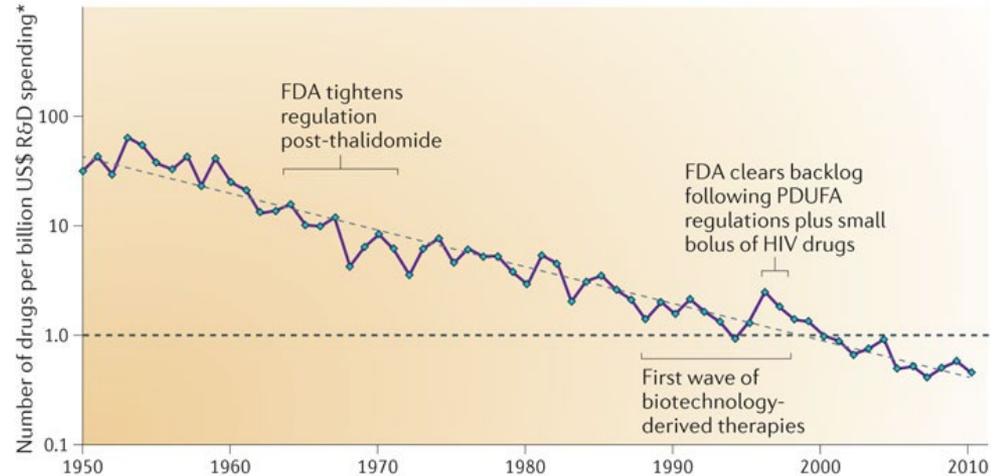
## Spending on non-reproducible research...



Freedman et al PLOS Biology (2015)

## ...Feeds a declining pipeline

a Overall trend in R&D efficiency (inflation-adjusted)



Scannell et al Nat Rev Drug Disc (2012)

# Failing too late in development

Ca. 65% fail at phase II



Adapted from Paul et al; Nat Rev Drug Disc (2010)

# Translational Medicine

## Right target

- Strong link between target and disease
- Differentiated efficacy
- Available and predictive biomarkers

## Right tissue

- Adequate bioavailability and tissue exposure
- Definition of PD biomarkers
- Clear understanding of preclinical and clinical PK/PD
- Understanding of drug–drug interactions

## Right safety

- Differentiated and clear safety margins
- Understanding of secondary pharmacology risk
- Understanding of reactive metabolites, genotoxicity and drug–drug interactions
- Understanding of target liability

## Right patient

- Identification of the most responsive patient population
- Definition of risk–benefit for a given population

## Right commercial potential

- Differentiated value proposition versus future standard of care
- Focus on market access, payer and provider
- Personalized health-care strategy, including diagnostics and biomarkers

## Right patient group in the selected disease

If stratification is appropriate for a given program, stratification strategy and companion diagnostics will need to be validated before initiating Phase III

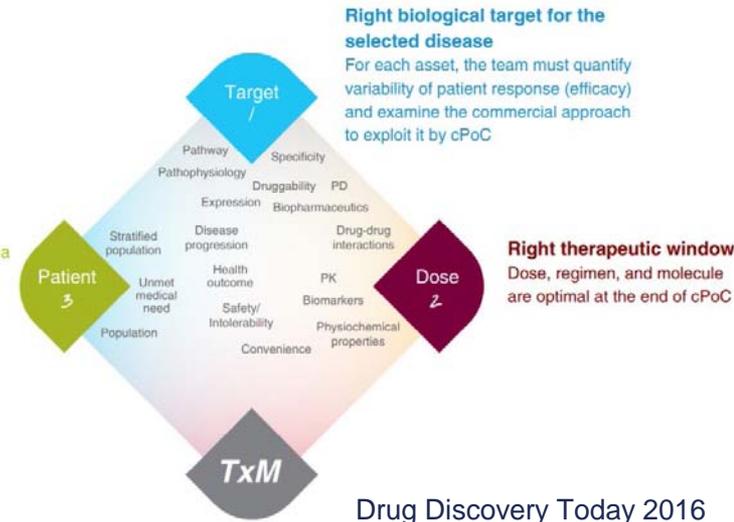


Figure 1 | **The 5R framework.** Summary of the key features of the five-dimensional framework: the right target, right tissue, right safety, right patient and right commercial potential. PD, pharmacodynamic; PK, pharmacokinetic.

# Bench to bedside and back



## To perform translational research

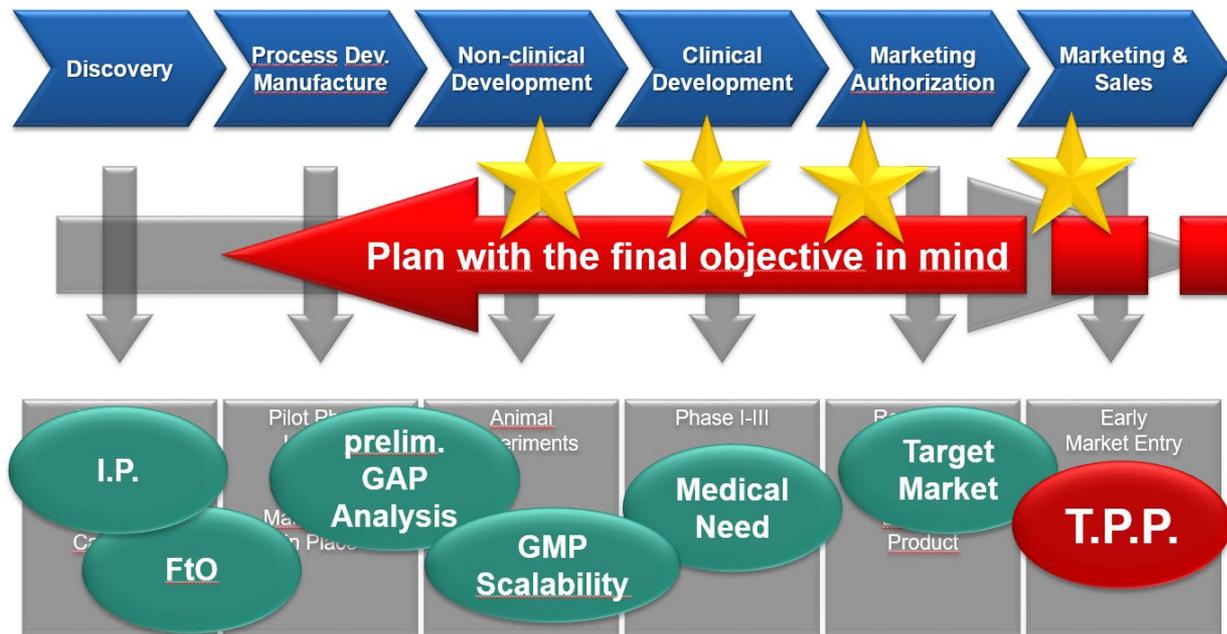
- Create multi-disciplinary teams per project requirements
- Bring together deep understanding of the biology and the clinical presentation
- Use latest - validated - analytical technologies

*For a better mechanistic understanding of the disease and potential therapeutic*

# Translational research in academia

- From deep, intra-disciplinary exploration to **multi-disciplinary**, confirmatory research
- From open question to **goal orientation**
- Many factors beyond the scientific concept dictate success:
  - Creating a product that fits the **clinical** workflow
  - Convincing **industry** that the product represents value
  - Convincing the **regulators** that the product is safe and efficacious
  - Convincing the **payors** that the product is cost-effective
  - Convincing **doctors** that the product addresses the medical need

# The path to the patient – in a reverse approach





# EATRIS Positioning

## **Vision**

Making translation of scientific discoveries into medical products more effective to improve human health and quality of life.

## **Mission**

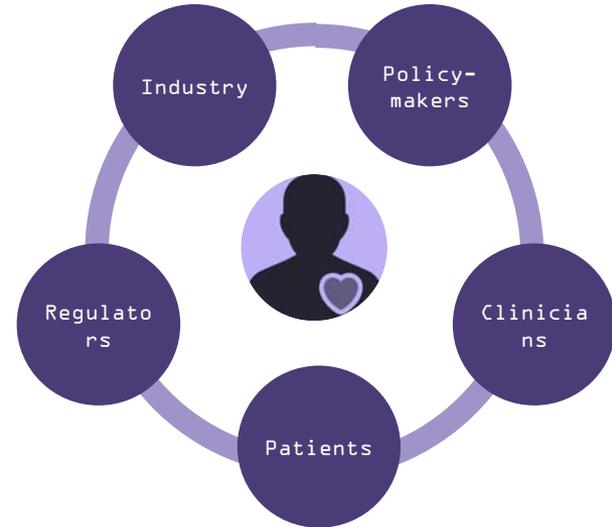
To support researchers in developing their biomedical discoveries into **novel translational tools and interventions** for better health outcomes for society.

Supporting academia, industry, patients and policy makers

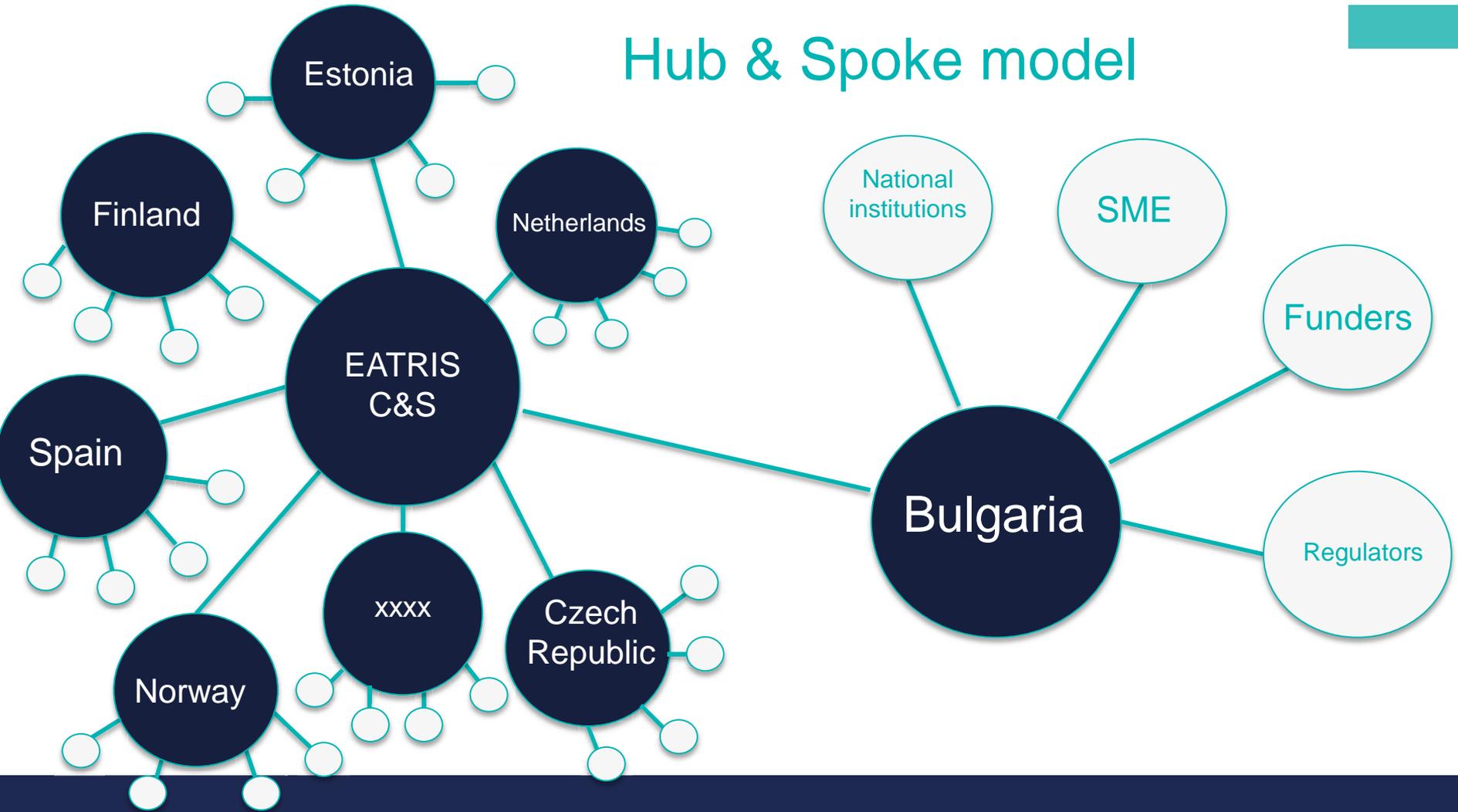
# EATRIS approach

*We make the translational  
community accessible to  
researchers*

- Access to quality research infrastructure services
- Support multi-disciplinary, patient-oriented research
- Ensure optimal methodological approach, best infrastructure & resources
- Easy access to industry, regulatory expertise



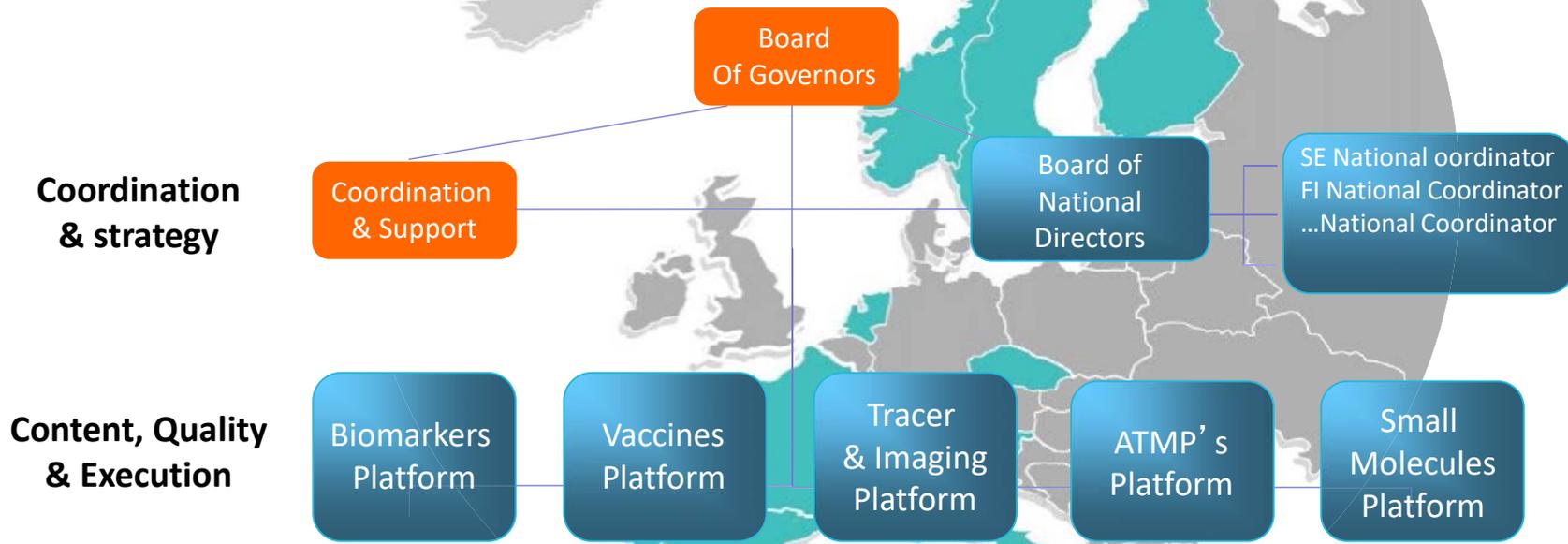
# Hub & Spoke model



# Strategic Goals 2019-2022



# Governance



**90 research institutions of excellence in translational medicine**

# Coordination & Support Team



Amsterdam

NL



# EATRIS Product Platforms

## Imaging & Tracing



Cyril Poupon  
Neurospin  
Paris, FR



Bert Windhorst  
VU Medical Center  
Amsterdam, NL

→ 34 institutions, (8 countries)

## ATMP & Biologicals



Maria Cristina Galli  
ISS, IT



Miguel Chillon  
VHIR, ES

→ 38 institutions, (9 countries)

## Biomarkers



Alain van Gool  
Radboudumc,  
TNO, NL



Laura Bermejo  
IRYCIS, ES



Andreas Scherer  
FIMM, FI



Sulev Koks  
Tartu University  
EE

→ 49 institutions – 9 countries

## Vaccines



Jan Langermans  
BPRC, NL



Lucia Gabriele  
ISS, IT

→ 15 institutions, (6 countries)

## Small Molecules



Mario Salmona  
IRF Mario Negri Milan, IT



Alfredo Budillon  
INT Pascale, Napels, IT

→ 26 institutions, (10 countries)

## Coordination & Support



Florence Bietrix



David Morrow



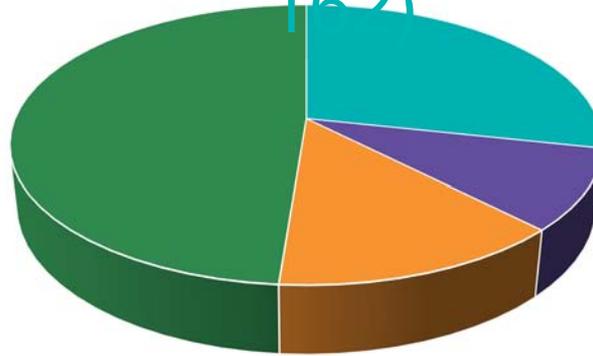
Martin de Kort

# What do we do?

- User access to EATRIS research & expert services
  - Academic, industry and funders are users
- Develop new research tools
  - EATRIS Strategic Research & Innovation Agenda
- Education & Training
- Improve conditions for translation
  - New funding and collaboration models
  - EATRIS Quality initiative - reproducibility

# EATRIS Client Portfolio 2014 - 2018 (n =

162)



- SME (46)
- Large Pharma (15)
- Funder (22)
- Academia (79)

# EATRIS Quality Initiative

## Imaging and Tracer Platform

- Europ. Soc. Mol. Imaging (ESMI) Study Group focused on the standardization of small animal imaging.
- Collaborating with EANM and EARL, jointly developing a 89Zr PET/CT accreditation program for the calibration of scanners to enable multi-site clinical imaging trials

## Vaccines platform:

- Activities towards providing reference reagents in vaccine development (EURIPRED; a knowledge infrastructure across Poverty Related Diseases)

## Small molecules platform:

- HTS Ring-testing (activity within “Translation together”); phase 0 finalized; phase 1 involves 13 sites

## Biomarker platform:

- SEQC2 (Sequencing quality control)
- ctDNA-reference material: possible collaboration with US-consortium

# Medical Research Infrastructure Alliance

Quality and  
reproducibility

Joint  
services



Complete infrastructure pipeline  
From molecule to man

Education  
and Training

Sensitive  
patient data

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Guidelines

# Operational roles

What is the role of the Amsterdam **coordination unit**?

- Professionalising access
- Coordinating key projects (SRIA)
- Tackling systemic issues; i.e for EATRIS:
  - Reproducibility
  - Standardisation and harmonisation
  - Capacity utilisation - EU-wide long range planning?
  - Improving framework conditions for knowledge generation and innovation

# Operational roles

What is the role of the **node/national consortium**?

- Coordinate national consortium & with C&S
- Providing access
- Executing intra- & extra- mural research
- Embedding in national eco-system
  - Collaborate with other infras, healthcare providers, NCAs etc.



# National Coordination

- **Partner finding** for grant proposal preparation: Enhances Country participation in EATRIS-led grant applications
  - **Community structuring** – building national community cohesion and collaboration through interaction with research and infrastructure partners (including other RIs) and institutions
  - **Outreach and business development** – attending local industry partnering events, conferences, workshops to raise awareness of national and European EATRIS services
  - **Supporting local community in EC grant preparation** Coordinating and leading input into projects, initiatives
  - **Facilitating local events**, workshops and governance meetings for the European EATRIS community
- 

# For EATRIS to be successful

It takes commitment and effort from everyone

- **Be responsive** - read the Platform updates, read and answer mails that are relevant, attend meetings and teleconferences
- **Be proactive** - try to find colleagues that are relevant for matchmaking and other opportunities
- **Be creative** - the SRIA is a home for your great translational science - use it
- **Be communicative** - share the EATRIS message, disseminate in your institute and research community



# Benefits of EATRIS membership

- Academic support - we offer a range of support services and resources to optimize your project (proposal)
- Industry partnering - active company client portfolio, support in reaching out to industry
- National infrastructure funding
- New communities - develop new collaborations across disciplines, sectors, countries and continents



# Supporting your funding applications

## Four levels of EATRIS C&S support

1. Consortium Building: to help with consortium building – identification of relevant institutions – list provided to PI, who contacts the institution(s)
2. Letter of support: for translational proposals and of high scientific quality
3. Provide services with EATRIS-ERIC as partner (i.e innovation management and industry partnering; Regulatory service; Translational Assessment Service...)
4. Leading role in proposal development for projects identified as flagship

# Level 1: Consortium Building

- EATRIS can help you find the right European academic partner for your consortium thanks to a comprehensive database of the high-end capabilities and expertise of 90 top tier member institutions.
- This service is offered free of charge to any party (EATRIS members and non-members).
- If you are a member of the infrastructure, EATRIS can also support you to identify companies, charities or patient organisations for your consortium.

## **What are the criteria to benefit from EATRIS support for consortium building?**

- The scope of the proposal idea must be translational;
- The PI is looking for areas of expertise and/or facilities that are crucial for project implementation.

## Level 2: Letter of support

### What are the criteria to obtain a letter of support from EATRIS?

- The scope of the proposal must be translational and of high scientific quality;
- The proposal must be in line with EATRIS mission: *“To support researchers in developing their biomedical discoveries into novel translational tools and interventions for better health outcomes for society”*;
- The consortium must be multidisciplinary with laboratory and clinical expertise represented; and when relevant, industry and/or patient organisations included as partners;
- The consortium must include institutions leading in their field and/or close collaborators of EATRIS (academic members or strategic partners);
- The proposal must explicitly commit to compliance with FAIR principles and include data management plan as a project’s deliverable.

## Level 3: Joining as partner

- Proposals must meet criteria listed for level 2;
- EATRIS participation would clearly add value to the consortium and the proposal is consistent with EATRIS project portfolio;
- At least one EATRIS member institution participates in the proposal as partner or linked third party of EATRIS;
- The consortium is looking for “standard” type of services: e.g. regulatory expertise, HTA support, sustainability planning, industry partnering, access to training opportunities (provided by EATRIS Coordination Office in Amsterdam)

## Level 4: Leading strategic projects

- From time to time, EATRIS will take a leading role in supporting the development and management of proposals coming from EATRIS member institutes, and identified as key potential contributions to the EATRIS Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda.

### **The proposal must fulfil the criteria mentioned for other levels and the following:**

- The proposal idea is in line with EATRIS mission and with EATRIS Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda 2019-2022;
- The proposal is coordinated by an EATRIS institution;
- The proposal serves the research community by addressing systemic inefficiencies in medical research;
- The infrastructure can rely on strong expertise of many member institutions as project partners;
- The proposal is disruptive and will have a high impact on improving a translational pipeline, and therefore on the European Research Area.

# Services provided by EATRIS as partner

## **Innovation Management & industry partnering**

- Activities can include: design of the dissemination and exploitation plan of the project; definition and implementation of a monitoring plan to capture intellectual property protection needs in a timely fashion; identification of industry partnering opportunities for co-development and/or out-licensing; follow-up financing opportunities.

## **Translational optimisation**

- Activities can include: monitoring of the project to ascertain a timely evaluation of the translational potential of the results generated during the project; full translational assessment to define follow-up validation route; early Health Technology Assessment (HTA) support.

## **Regulatory support**

- Assessing the project's regulatory strategy and feasibility;
- Interacting with the relevant regulatory authorities;
- Answering any regulatory question arising during the project's lifetime;
- Ensuring the project fulfils all regulatory requirements



# The EATRIS Platforms



# EATRIS BIOMARKER PLATFORM

## 63 European advanced biomarker development centres

State-of-the-art technologies and expertise:

- Biobanks and associated medical data
- Liquid Biopsy
- Assay development and validation
- Clinical expertise
- Multi-centre clinical trials – prospective validation
- Handover to industry – early dialogue & partnering
- Regulatory and reimbursement



# EATRIS BIOMARKER PLATFORM – Technology offering

Omics – technologies and bioinformatics:

- Genomics, next-gen DNA/RNA sequencing
- Proteomics, metabolomics...

Molecular pathology

- Multiplexed immunoassays and immunostaining of cells/tissues/TMAs
- Antibody libraries, antibody engineering and immunoassay development
- Automated images analysis and web microscopy

Targeted mass spectrometry

Multiparametric flow cytometry



# COLLABORATING TOWARDS GOOD BIOMARKER PRACTICES



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European infrastructure  
for translational medicine



## COMMENT

### Bridging the translational innovation gap through good biomarker practice

*Alain J. van Gool<sup>1</sup>, Florence Bietrix<sup>2</sup>, Eric Caldenhoven<sup>3</sup>, Kurt Zatloukal<sup>4</sup>, Andreas Scherer<sup>5</sup>, Jan-Eric Litton<sup>6</sup>, Gerrit Meijer<sup>7</sup>, Niklas Blomberg<sup>8</sup>, Andy Smith<sup>8</sup>, Barend Mons<sup>9</sup>, Jaap Heringa<sup>10</sup>, Wim-Jan Koot<sup>3</sup>, Martin J. Smit<sup>11</sup>, Marian Hajduch<sup>12</sup>, Ton Rijnders<sup>3</sup> and Anton Ussi<sup>2</sup>*

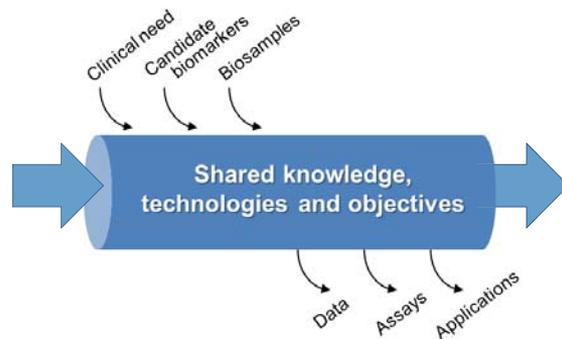
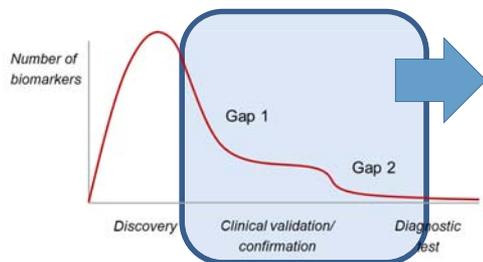
Few biomarkers progress from discovery to become validated tools or diagnostics. To bridge this gap, three European biomedical research infrastructures — EATRIS-ERIC (focused on translational medicine), BBMRI-ERIC (focused on biobanking) and ELIXIR (focused on data sharing) — are paving the way to developing and sharing best practices for biomarker validation.

*{{Nature Reviews Drug Discovery, Apr 2017}}*

COST action CA16113

<http://clinimark.eu>

# DEFRAGMENTING BIOMARKER VALIDATION CAPACITIES



Join forces among Europe's major academic infrastructures + industry to:

## 1. Establish “Good Biomarker Practice” guidelines

- on translational research, biomarker technologies, biobanking, data stewardship.

## 2. Efficiently execute high quality biomarker projects

- work together in clinical validation and development of probable biomarkers

# EATRIS IMAGING & TRACING PLATFORM

## 38 European advanced Translational Imaging centres

State-of-the-art technologies and expertise:



- Preclinical and clinical scanners
- PET, MRI (incl. 7T), US, optical
- Multimodal imaging (incl. PET/CT, PET/MRI)
- Nanomedicine formulation contrast agents
- Cyclotrons (all medical radioisotopes)
- Radiochemistry (GMP, >70 tracers)
- Preclinical, translational and clinical expertise
- Handover to industry – early dialogue & partnering



# EATRIS IMAGING PLATFORM – Technology offering



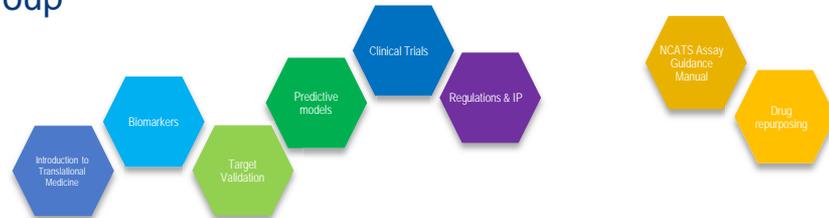
- Access to new technologies and high-end academic infrastructure
- Early de-risking for drug candidates and therapeutic strategies
- Full development of imaging biomarkers, incl. data analysis
- Target engagement, patient stratification
- Tailored collaboration with pharma and SME clients
- Spur innovation in rare diseases and precision medicine

## Educational activities - examples

- NEURATRIS (Paris) – Webinar series in Neuroimaging (Nov 2018):  
*CEST-MRI for neurodegenerative diseases,*  
*Optical tools for brain cells,*  
*PET imaging to investigate neurodegenerative diseases*  
*Next edition, new topics in March 2019*



- VHIR (Barcelona) – Translational Medicine course for PhDs and Postdocs (Ccomend project)  
*Financial support by LaCaixa Foundation (next edition Nov 2019)*
- University of Ljubljana - PPP Best Practice workshop (Dec 12-13, 2018; CORBEL project)
- TRANSLATION TOGETHER – E&T Working group  
*expand E-learning, organize workshops, ...*



## Multi-site Imaging: $^{89}\text{Zr}$ PET/CT Accreditation Program

**Goal:** Enabling multi-center trials with harmonized  $^{89}\text{Zr}$  PET/CT imaging

**Scope:** Development of accreditation program with EANM/EARL

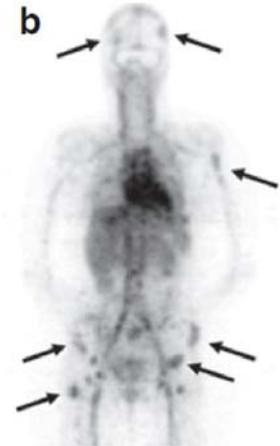
**Preparation:** Pilot phase (n=7) completed in 2017 (incl. EATRIS sites)

**Potential scale:** >150 eligible sites (already FDG accredited)

**Immuno-PET quick start support:** IMPD, SOPs, GMP compliance training

**Current Status:**

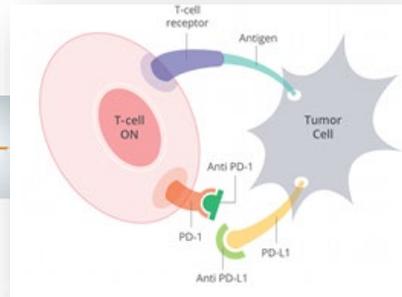
- Launch of accreditation program Jan 2019
- Operated by EANM/EARL



EARL *4you*



# Imaging Supporting Pharma Drug Development



ARTICLE

DOI: 10.1038/s41467-018-07131-y

OPEN

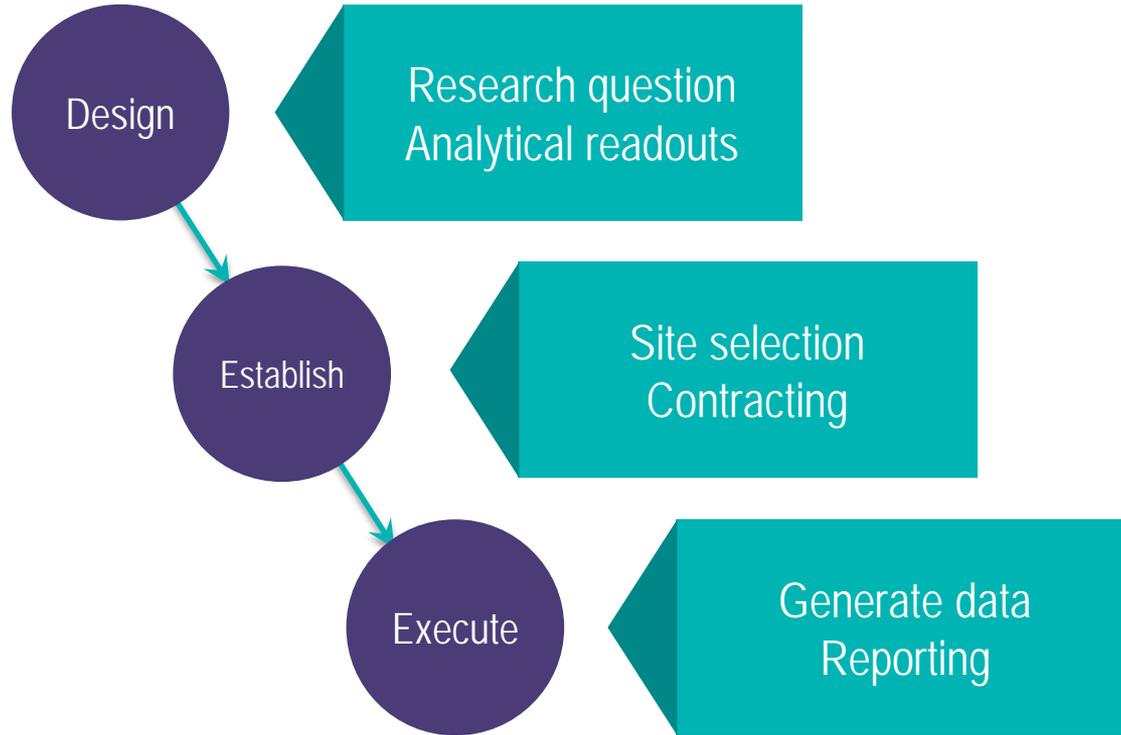
Whole body PD-1 and PD-L1 positron emission tomography in patients with non-small-cell lung cancer

A.N. Niemeijer<sup>1</sup>, D. Leung<sup>2</sup>, M.C. Huisman<sup>3</sup>, I. Bahce<sup>1</sup>, O.S. Hoekstra<sup>3</sup>, G.A.M.S. van Dongen<sup>3</sup>, R. Boellaard<sup>3</sup>, S. Du<sup>2</sup>, W. Hayes<sup>2</sup>, R. Smith<sup>2</sup>, A.D. Windhorst<sup>3</sup>, N.H. Hendrikse<sup>3</sup>, A. Poot<sup>3</sup>, D.J. Vugts<sup>3</sup>, E. Thunnissen<sup>4</sup>, P. Morin<sup>2</sup>, D. Lipovsek<sup>2</sup>, D.J. Donnelly<sup>2</sup>, S.J. Bonacorsi<sup>2</sup>, L.M. Velasquez<sup>2</sup>, T.D. de Gruijll<sup>5</sup>, E.F. Smit<sup>6</sup> & A.J. de Langen<sup>1,6</sup>

Head-to-head comparison of [<sup>89</sup>Zr]-nivolumab and [<sup>18</sup>F]BMS986192 in same patients (n=13), against IHC.

Several EATRIS sites involved in industry collaborations

# Industry research services



# Various collaboration types supported



## Type

## Key success factors

## Rate limiting factors

### Single Service

Matching expertise

Finding the right partner  
Check: freedom to operate



### Master Service

Robust platform  
Client orientation

Successful pilot



### Collaborative

Trust  
Track record

Due diligence  
Audit(s)



### Complex Collaborative

Aligning expectations early  
Project champion  
Single point of contact

Project complexity  
Lack of technical expertise  
Lack of PM capacity/experience



### Collaboration Hub

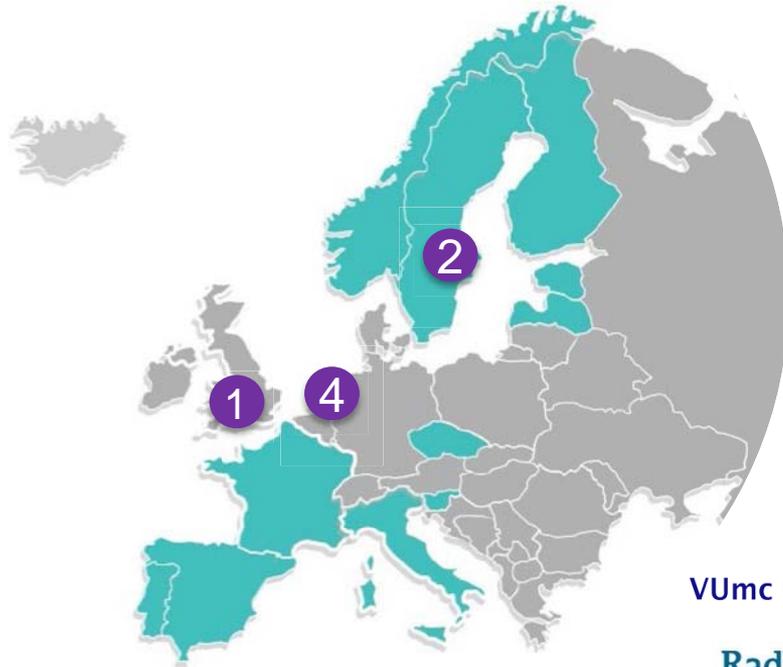
Critical mass  
Long term commitment  
True collaborative spirit  
Facilitator/negotiator  
Administrator

Legal & operational design  
Slow decision making (private)  
Priorities, capacity planning (public)

*(Based on EATRIS ERIC experience 2013-2018)*

Incremental  
complexity

# Public-Private Innovation Hub



News

## UNIQUE HUB COLLABORATION - IMAGING METHOD DEVELOPMENT IN INFLAMMATORY DISEASES

International multi-site collaboration hub will implement new clinical imaging tools and deliver several projects per year with enhanced speed and throughput.

**Amsterdam, The Netherlands, June 4, 2018** – The European Infrastructure for Translational Medicine (EATRIS) has formed a collaboration with GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) to deliver a clinical and scientific expert network for the development and application of innovative imaging methods for inflammatory diseases.



**Advanced imaging.** The initiative is aimed at optimising existing imaging technologies for drug development and clinical translation of emerging probes.

While existing clinical imaging tools provide useful endpoints in clinical trials, they typically lack sufficient cellular and molecular information to fully understand drug response. Imaging has the potential to interrogate inflammatory cell populations, quantitatively in different tissues. This alliance aims to unlock this potential by delivering new clinical tools. Applying imaging in information-rich, small cohort studies can provide a high, immediate impact to enhance R&D productivity; developing our understanding of disease in the patient; enriching clinical trial cohorts; measuring therapeutic response.

The imaging hub aims to achieve these goals by (1) optimising existing magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and positron emission tomography (PET) technology

for drug development; and (2) translating emerging PET and optical cell-specific probes towards the clinic. The first three projects with a focus around immune cell specific imaging have now been initiated.

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Hub Formation

Master Research  
Collaboration  
Agreement (MRCA)

- Type 1 – Proprietary research
- Type 2 - Collaborative research
- Type 3 - External funded
- Type 4 - Sponsored Trial

Academic  
Institution X

Academic  
Institution Y

Academic  
Institution Z

**eatris**

*Hub administration  
Legal support  
Overall coordination  
Project monitoring*

Company

**Steering Committee**

*Hub Strategy  
Portfolio management*

**Operations Committee**

*Quality & compliance  
Finances & contracting  
Scouting & external collaborations*

Project Agreements

Project  
Team 1

A, X

Project  
Team 2

A, Y, Z

Project  
Team 3

B, Z

Project  
Team 4

B, Z, X

Project  
Team 5

C, Y, .....

# EATRIS SMALL MOLECULES PLATFORM

## 27 European Academic Drug Discovery centres

State-of-the-art technologies and expertise:



- Drug discovery platforms
  - HTS platforms (incl. X-ray / cellular and organoid screening)
  - Lead finding (MedChem/Pharmacology)
  - In vivo profiling
  - ADME profiling
- Peptide production (incl. GMP)
- Structural analysis (NMR, X-ray, LC/MS)
- (Re-)formulation labs

# SMALL MOLECULES PLATFORM - Technology offering

## Nanomedicines & Targeted Therapeutics for Precision Medicine

- Optimization of nanoparticle composition for clinical studies
- *In vitro* and *in vivo* safety / efficacy / profiling
- Compliant nanoparticle production

## Advanced Screening

- PDX models for immune oncology
- Compounds collections of existing and novel drugs
- Organoid/ 3D cultures for tumor microenvironment screening
- Set up compliant *in vivo* models

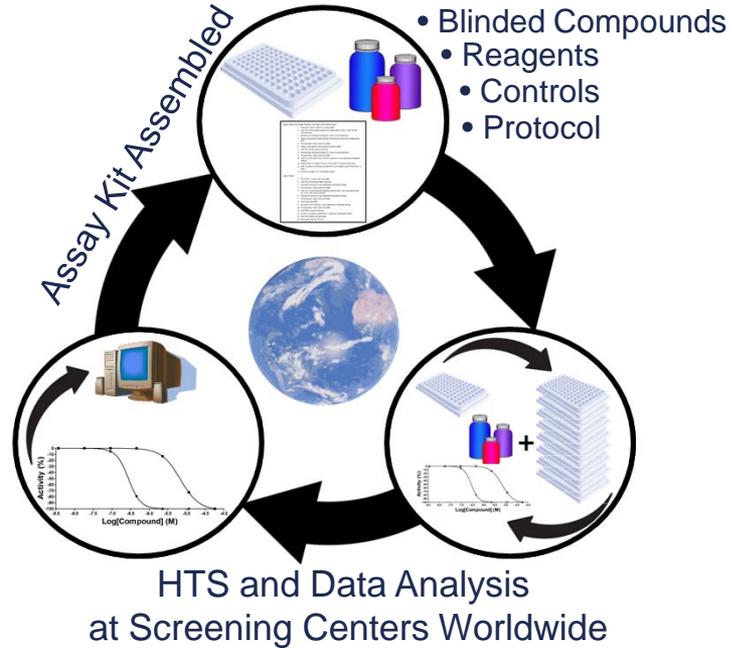
## Drug repurposing

- Chemosensitisers
- Drug synergisms for combination therapies
- Drug sensitivity screening / pharmacoresistance
- ODD designation application support



# Quality Initiative: HTS screening

## HTS ring-testing programme

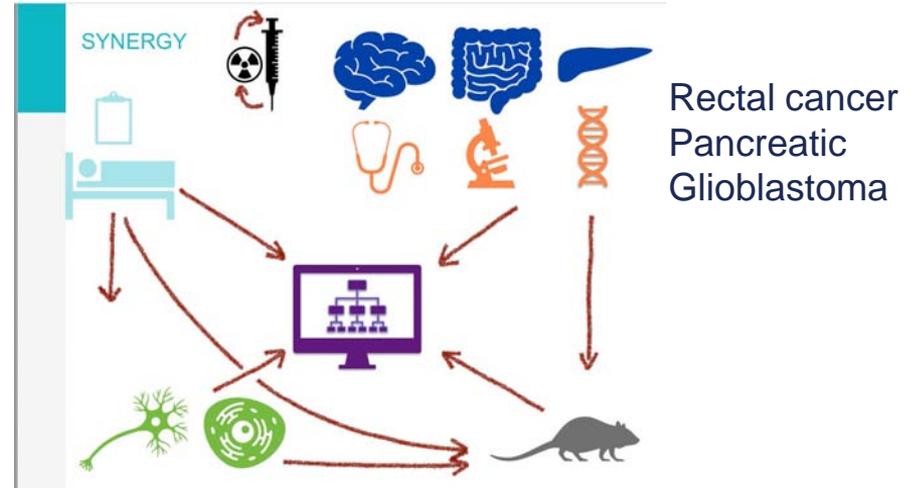


Developed by Translation Together, a partnership of:



# SYNERGY

H2020 specific challenge “SC1-BHC-02-2019:  
Systems approaches for the discovery of combinatorial therapies for  
complex disorders”.



HTS (X-ray/chemo), eHealth records, NGS, Machine Learning.

# EATRIS ATMP PLATFORM

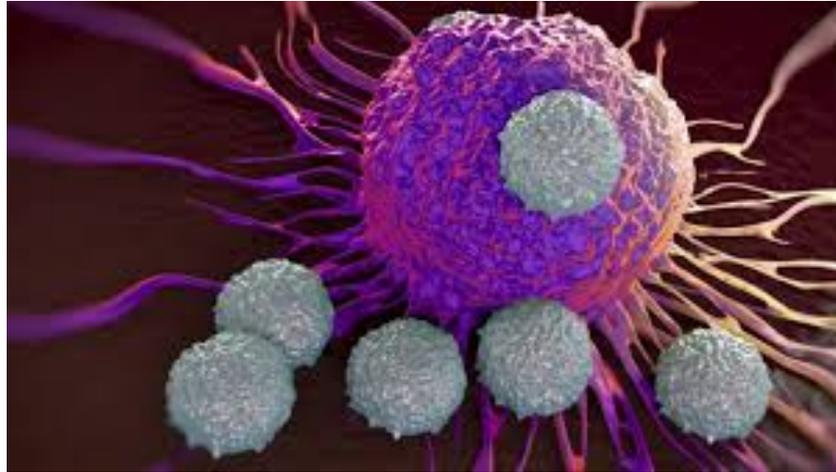
## 38 Advanced Therapy Research Centers

State-of-the-art technologies and expertise:

- Preclinical testing capabilities- preclinical animal models
- Genome editing and therapy
- Cell therapy and transplantation,
- Access to patients cohorts eligible for clinical trials with ATMPs
- Access to clinical facilities for carrying out Phase I/II/III clinical trials with ATMPs
- Support for trial design and execution under Good Clinical Practice
- Clinical testing capabilities, including routine as well as specialised clinical analyses, immune-monitoring, clinical imaging,
- Clinical tissue banking operations according to 2004/23/EU
- GMP Manufacturing
- Regulatory Support



# What do we do as a Platform?



# Supporting our Institutions in Developing

## Proposals

Example: **SC1-BHC-17-2019: Regenerative medicine: from new insights to new applications (single-stage call; deadline: April 16 2019)**

- Genome editing- CRISPR
- Gene therapy Expertise
- Transdifferentiation and *in vivo* reprogramming,
- cell therapy and Transplantation
- GMP Production of Cell and Gene Therapy Products
- Organoids
- Clinical Trial Facilities

EATRIS reviewed 8 applications – joined 2 as partner

# Driving Funding Calls around key Challenges in ATMP Development



- The ATMP platform participated in an IMI consultation to identify bottlenecks in ATMP development. EATRIS formed a major part in the European Union (EU) wide **consultation** which resulted in the first **ATMP specific calls** which will be initiated in 2017/18 where EATRIS will participate in relevant consortia as they arrive.
- September 2017 EATRIS paper “**Addressing Pressing Needs in the development of advanced therapies**” accepted for publication. This paper promotes the need for an innovation group which involves the funder, industry, regulator and academic RIs to address systemic challenges in ATMP development. (**paper circulated at IMI for EATRIS involvement in funding proposal strategy**)



## Addressing Pressing Needs in the Development of Advanced Therapies

David Morrow\*, Anton Liscii and Giovanni Migliaccio

EATRIS ETRC, European Infrastructure for Translational Medicine, Amsterdam, Netherlands

# New Collaborations to Promote our Platform Resources and Expertise



Connecting People, Science and Regulation®



- Conference/Workshop Development
- Mutual Marketing
- Business Development Activities
- EATRIS Expertise/Services Promotion at Conferences



# Educational and Training Initiatives



Workshop D: Potency assays in advanced therapies and vaccines  
Highlighting the strategy, pitfalls and regulatory pathway for the  
development of ATMPs and Vaccines

## PROGRAMME

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 16:30 - 16:40 | Introduction- Characterisation and Potency Assay strategy -<br>Maria Cristina Galli & Lucia Gabriele (ISS, Italy)   |
| 16:40 - 17:00 | Regulatory Guidance for Potency Assay Strategy<br>Koen Brusselmans (Belgian Scientific Institute of Public Health)<br>Marcos Timon (Spanish Medicine Authority)<br>Ivana Haunerova (State Institute for Drug Control, Czech Republic)   |
| 17:00 - 17:30 | Case Study Holoclar- Potency Assay Strategy for Market<br>Approved ATMP - Graziella Pellegrini (Unimore)  |
| 17:30 - 18:15 | Teams work on cases   |
| 18:15 - 19:15 | Scientific Advice Meetings<br><br>Panel of 5 regulators<br>1) Maria Cristina Galli (ISS)<br>2) Giovanni Migliaccio (EATRIS)<br>3) Marcos Timon (Spanish Medicine Authority)<br>4) Ivana Haunerova (State Institute for Drug Control)<br>5) Koen Brusselmans (Belgian Scientific Institute of Public Health) |
| 19:15 - 19:30 | Discussion and Wrap up  |

# Collaboration with industry

**Provide access to:**

Scientific / medical expertise + technology in ATMP development

We identify academic partners that can offer specific expertise and technology to facilitate ATMP development including:

- Imaging & tracing capabilities
- Specific assays and animal models
- (rare) patient cohorts and samples
- Regulatory support
- GMP Manufacturing
- And much more...



**38 EATRIS ATMP Research Centers**

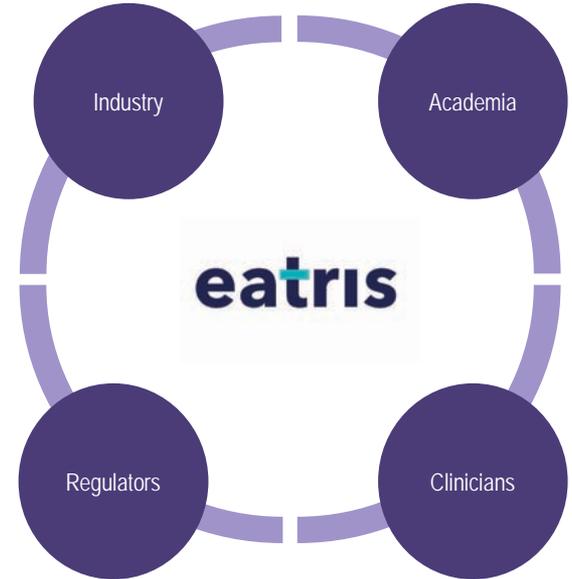
# Identifying Challenges in the ATMP Field

- Many **systemic bottlenecks in ATMP development** are due to weak/non-existent cross-sector cooperation.
  - Accessing **latest translational tools**, e.g.
  - Molecular imaging (cell tracking for CTs),
  - The right potency assays,
  - Assays addressing collateral effects of new therapies (e.g CRS from ACT)



***There exists a real need to develop and validate a quantitative, non-invasive, cell imaging platform for cell therapies***

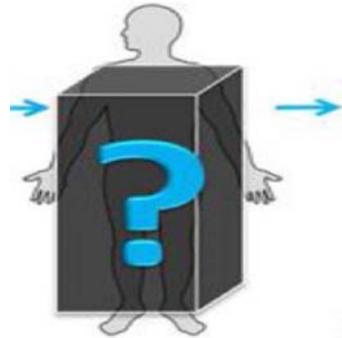
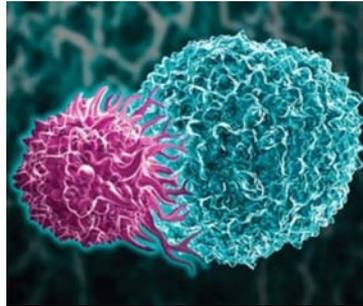
***- EATRIS Flagship Project-***



**Cross-sectoral collaboration is a critical success factor**



# Lack of basic knowledge of CAR T cell behavior in vivo



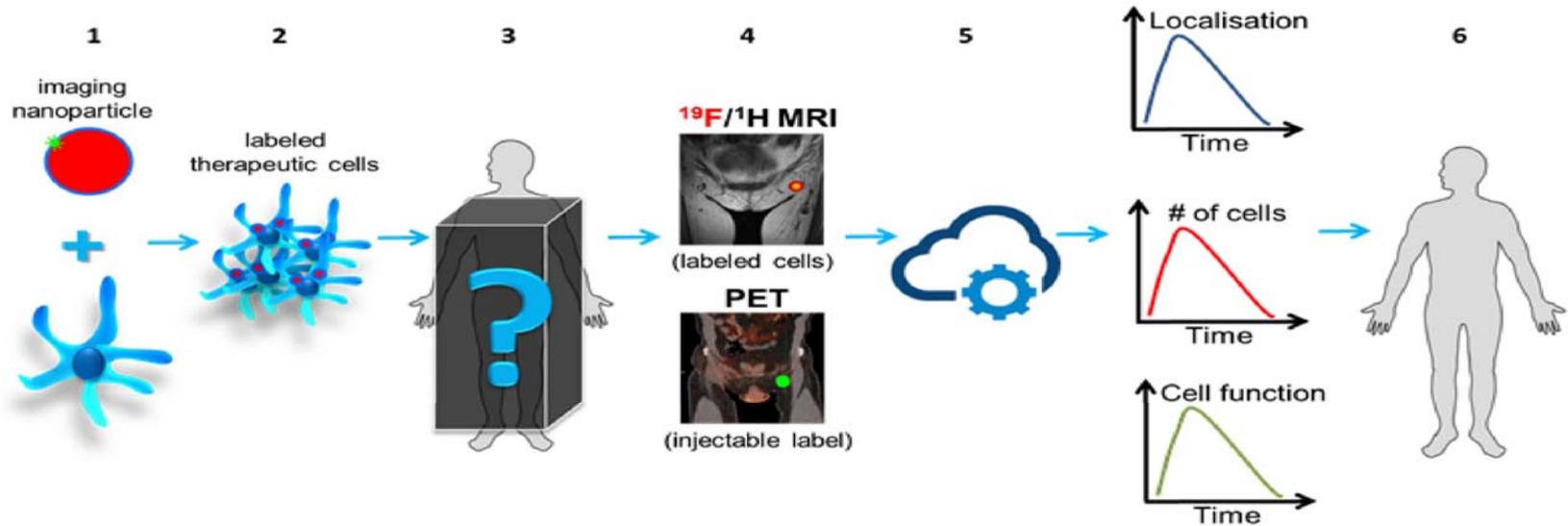
*CAR T cell biodistribution?*

*Cell numbers at tumor?*

*Proliferation at tumor site?*

*Tumor infiltration?*

How can we acquire a comprehensive picture, noninvasively, of what is happening in vivo with promising therapeutic cells?



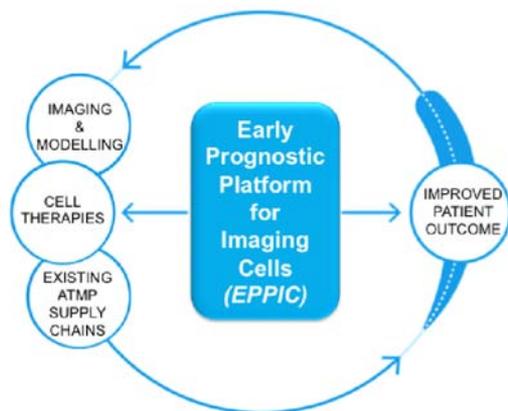
SC1-BHC-09-2018:Innovation platforms for advanced therapies of the future  
-Level 4 Support-

# What does the EPPIC Project want to deliver?

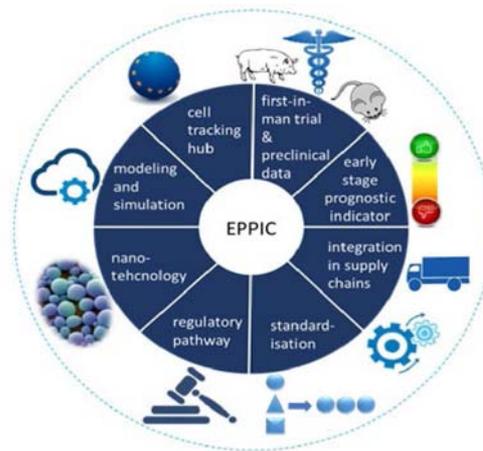
**EPPIC** foresees the close interaction of academic, clinical and industrial partners, and wishes to pursue a number of activities with diverse outcomes. It is envisaged that planned activities will deliver:

## Objective:

Develop a broadly applicable platform, which incorporates noninvasive in vivo imaging and predictive modelling for the optimization of cell therapies, that is integrated into existing ATMP supply chains.



**The Concept**



**The Platform**



# The Partners

Radboudumc

eatris



## Main Partners

cellsense



## Scientific Advisory Board

# EATRIS Vaccine Platform

## 15 Participating Centers

State-of-the-art technologies and expertise:

- Antigen Production/Delivery Systems
- Preclinical Animal Models
- Vaccine Production Facilities
- Immunomodulation and Immunomonitoring Platforms for Vaccine Candidates
- Access to Patients Cohorts eligible for Clinical Trials with Vaccines
- Access to clinical facilities for carrying out Phase I/II/III Clinical Trials with Vaccines
- GMP Manufacturing
- Regulatory Support



# EATRIS Vaccine Platform Initiatives



**IPROVE:** The “Innovation Partnership for a Roadmap on Vaccines in Europe”, financed under the EU 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme in which EATRIS was one of the partners, was launched setting out a vision for vaccine research and innovation in Europe over the next 20 years. **(Now Published)**

**EURIPRED** is a collaborative infrastructure program, its objective the reinforcement of the knowledge infrastructure across diseases. Its aim is to speed the development of new tools (vaccines, drugs, microbicides) to combat tuberculosis, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), malaria, hepatitis B virus (HBV) and hepatitis C virus (HCV). One of the key activities is providing reference reagents, services and trainings for free. **(Ends in Oct 2017- Reagents still available)**



**TRANSVAC2** (2017-22) is a collaborative infrastructure project funded by the European Commission (EC), first under the 7th Framework Programme (FP7) and currently under Horizon 2020. The project is a joint effort of leading European groups in the field of vaccine development, and is coordinated by the European Vaccine Initiative (EVI). TRANSVAC is designed to accelerate vaccine development by enhancing European vaccine research and training, and increase sustainability of EC vaccine projects by implementing a permanent research infrastructure for early vaccine development. EATRIS makes up one of the 25 partners in this initiative which Kicked off in May 2017.



# Offering Technology Platforms for New Vaccine Candidates.

- CD8 T-cell responses for vaccine candidates
  - Mucosal immunity and vaccines
  - Th1 and Th2 vaccine-induced immunity
  - Long term immune memory
  - Safety and tolerability-development of biomarkers of safety and protection from the bedside to the bench
  - RNA vaccines
  - Innovative clinical trials
- 

Thank you for your attention and  
your engagement in Q&A

For further information



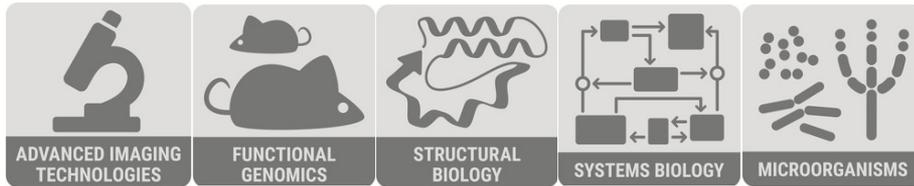
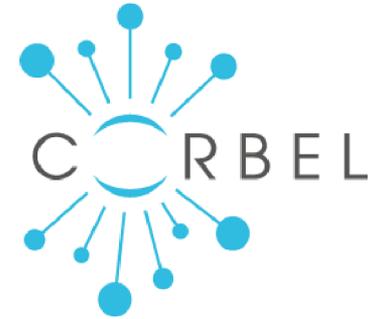
[davidmorrow@eatris.eu](mailto:davidmorrow@eatris.eu)  
[martindekort@eatris.eu](mailto:martindekort@eatris.eu)  
[antonussi@eatris.eu](mailto:antonussi@eatris.eu)



# Example Projects in the EATRIS Portfolio



# Biomedical cluster project (until 2020)



“By harmonising **user access**, **unifying data management**, creating common ethical and legal services, and offering joint **innovation support** CORBEL will establish and support a new model for biological and medical research in Europe.”

<http://www.corbel-project.eu>



## CORBEL WP8 - fostering RI innovation potential

- Innovation office to be sustained after CORBEL
  - Real time partnering & collaboration advice for RIs - open daily
  - Template documents, guidelines and assistance with collaboration and knowledge sharing;
  - Access to specialist knowledge in relation to business development and legal, regulatory or ethical aspects;
- 



## European Joint Programme in Rare Disease

**Multi-stakeholder, patient-centred initiative to foster rare disease research from bench to bedside and back - 5 years, €108 million**

EJP-RD goals include:

- structuring the connection with **European Reference Networks**;
- **research funding** (E-RARE ERA-NET);
- promoting improved **research methodologies** for rare disease research;
- More **effective translation and professional mentoring**;
- ensuring **patient involvement** in all steps of the research pathway;
- **FAIR** principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Re-usable);

EATRIS leads Pillar 4 (translation & clinical) & Sustainability

# Early HTA & Feasibility Assessment

EATRIS developed early HTA framework for ZonMw

- For Translationeel Adult Stamcelonderzoek programme 2018
- Uses EUNetHTA 9 point model plus EATRIS principles



Working with Reuma Nederland and ZonMw since 2014

- Assessing translational feasibility of translational research projects
  - Unmet medical need
  - IP status
  - Technological novelty (competitive landscape)
  - Regulatory pathway



# EATRIS 2013 - 2018

Establishing pan-EU access to high quality infrastructure



## GSK - Immuno inflammation Imaging Hub

- Next generation public-private collaboration
- Translating new molecular inflammation imaging targets and probes to humans

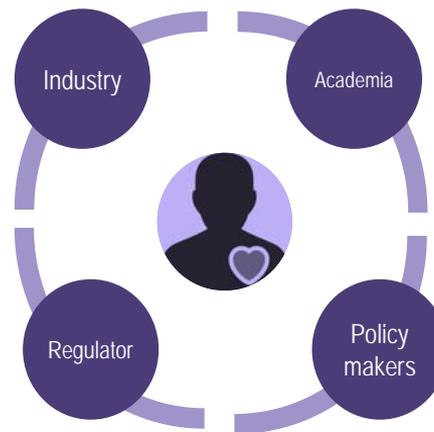


Press Release, June 2018

# EATRIS 2013 - 2018

## Enabling multi-sector innovation

- Identify systemic bottlenecks
- Develop new ways to fund/collaborate
- Work directly with charities/funders
- Work directly with regulators



Bring together expertise to help select and design validation of biomarker study for early cancer detection



UniSR  
UNIVERSITÀ VITA-SALUTE SAN RAFFAELE



Designed early HTA framework  
For €8mn call financed by Min. Health  
For more patient-centric, affordable innovation

# EATRIS 2013 - 2018

**Enabling multi-sector innovation: Human + Social venture capital, 21 charities and EATRIS-ERIC collaborating for better patient outcomes**



- 1- All NL health charities & ZonMw can apply for VC co-funding (33%)
- 2- EATRIS performs feasibility assessment
- 3- Human+ Investment Board decides on funding
- 4- EATRIS supports execution as needed

human+

# EATRIS 2013 - 2018

Working with global with peers – Translation Together

**T** translation together



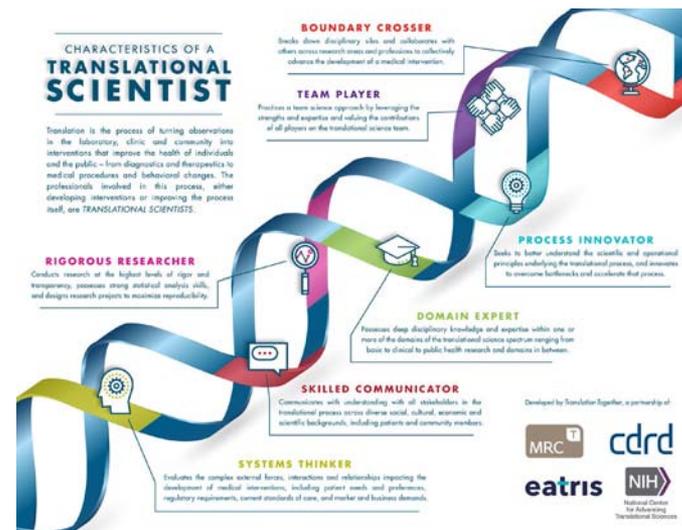
LifeArc



**eatris**



国立研究開発法人 日本医療研究開発機構  
Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development



## Objectives

01 >

Coordinate and develop programs and resources for educating and training the next generation of translational scientists and other key stakeholders.

02 >

Advocate for a broad understanding of and appreciation for translation and translational science among diverse stakeholders.

03 >

Assist investigators in the conduct of translation and translational science by connecting them to resources, tools, technologies, and expertise.

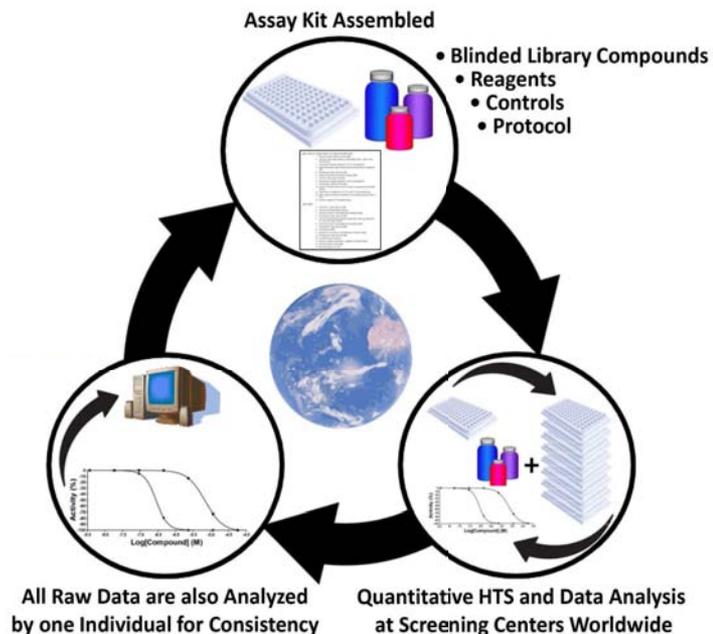
04 ✓

Conduct collaborative research projects to remove systemic barriers and catalyze translation.

# EATRIS 2013 - 2018

## Working with global with peers – EATRIS Quality Initiative

### HTS Ring Testing



- **Explore reproducibility of HTS experiments** - identify sources of variation among participating centers:
  - Blinded library of Pharmacologically Active Compounds luciferase biochemical assays with *Photinus pyralis* and *Renilla reniformis*
  - All experiments are performed with identical reagents and protocols supplied by NCATS
  - All data analyses performed at NCATS as well as each participant individually