

# Dutch Life Sciences

## CONFERENCE

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Update 10 October 2025

**20 November 2025**

**Venue: CORPUS CONGRESS CENTRE - Oegstgeest  
the Netherlands**

**07:45 Registration desk open Investors Forum**  
For participants attending the Investors Forum breakfast session. The Investors Forum is taking place at the Penthouse of CORPUS.

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**08:00 Investors forum part 1 - breakfast session -**

hosted by   
INNOVATION

**MODERATOR: Dr. ir. Lisanne Blauw, Associate at Thuja Capital**

*The investors forum is an exciting opportunity for those companies looking for equity capital and/or partnerships with companies and institutes across the life sciences value chain, from biotech, medtech and pharma companies to financiers and universities. The forum offers excellent opportunities for presenting your company or university to Venture Capitalists, corporate- and regional investment funds and to discuss your business strategy.*

The jury consists of:

- **Lisanne Blauw**, Associate Thuja Capital (chair)
  - **Thom Frielink**, Sr. Associate Curie Capital
  - **Viggo van Tendeloo**, Director, Early-stage Innovation Benelux J&J Innovative Medicine
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**08:30 Registration desk, exhibition open**

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**08:30 Exhibition**

*Present your company, products, technology or service. Open from 08:30 a.m. till 18:30 a.m.*

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09:30-10:50 **Plenary morning program**

hosted by



09:30 **Welcome by moderator Suzanne Spliethoff**

**Opening by Esther Peters, Director Leiden Bio Science Park**

09:45 **Keynote presentation by Jasper Levink, CEO Khondrion**

*Jasper Levink, newly appointed CEO of Khondrion, will share his vision for leading the company's next phase of growth in mitochondrial medicine. Building on a strong scientific foundation and clinical pipeline, he will outline priorities for advancing therapies to patients, fostering collaborations across the life sciences sector, and scaling Khondrion's impact in rare disease innovation in the Netherlands and beyond.*

10:15 **Venture Challenge**

hosted by

**Health~Holland**

*The winner of the Venture Challenge Fall 2025 will be announced!*

Presentation by **Dr.ir. Chrétien Herben, Program Director Life Sciences@Work**

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10:35 **Break**

Time for networking and to visit the exhibition

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11:15-12:30 **Parallel morning sessions**

<p><b>1a. Biotech Booster: showcasing early-stage projects</b></p> <p><i>hosted by</i></p>  <p><b>biotech booster</b></p> <p>Moderator: Nettie Buitelaar</p>	<p>This session spotlights early-stage 'Proof-of-Principle' projects from the Biotech Booster program, where researchers present their promising life sciences innovations to a panel of seasoned investors and industry experts. Each presentation will be followed by constructive feedback, offering valuable guidance on refining the concept, assessing market fit, and identifying next steps toward future development and investment readiness.</p>	<p>Pitches by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Nanoloom</li> <li>▪ Constellate</li> <li>▪ ProliSpot</li> <li>▪ On-site Readout of CHips for Infectious Disease Diagnostics (ORCHIDD)</li> <li>▪ Lumox</li> </ul> <p>Panel members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ...</li> <li>▪ ...</li> <li>▪ ...</li> </ul>
<p><b>1b. AI-powered Drug Discovery: from Bench to Computer</b></p> <p>Moderator:</p>	<p>Artificial intelligence is reshaping drug discovery, accelerating the shift from wet-lab experiments to advanced computational modelling. This session explores how FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) data principles enable robust AI models, the strategic investments driving innovation, and the critical role of infrastructure - such as high-performance computing and specialised data centres - in supporting these breakthroughs. Speakers will also address evolving regulatory frameworks and share real-world examples of bringing AI-enabled therapeutics from concept to clinic.</p>	<p>Presentations by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Barend Mons</b>, Scientific Director and Chairman at GO FAIR Foundation (LUMC)</li> <li>▪ <b>Dr. Kanin Wichapong</b>, CTO at Hillmark Biopharma</li> <li>▪ <b>Max Trauernicht</b>, Voyagen</li> </ul>
<p><b>1c. Innovations in Biologicals: from Concept to Cure</b></p> <p><i>hosted by</i></p>  <p><b>PROGRESS</b></p> <p>Moderator: Frank van Engelenburg</p>	<p>Biological therapies are redefining the future of medicine, delivering new levels of precision and impact. This session will explore groundbreaking advances in biologics, the evolving investment landscape that fuels their development, and the pathways from early-stage research to clinical application. Learn how scientific innovation, strategic funding, and translational expertise are converging to shape the next generation of life-changing treatments.</p>	<p>Presentations by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Steven de Maat</b>, Chief Scientific Officer &amp; Co Founder TargED Biopharmaceuticals</li> <li>▪ <b>Wim Dokter</b>, Chief Scientific Officer at Byondis</li> <li>▪ <b>Ivan Burkov</b>, Partner at Inkef</li> </ul>

12:30

**Lunch**




Time for networking and to visit the exhibition



13:00

## Investors forum part 2 - lunch session –

14:00-15:15 **Parallel afternoon sessions**

<p><b>2a. Innovations delivery technologies</b></p> <p><i>hosted by</i></p>  <p>Moderator: Robert Hof</p>	<p>Advances in drug delivery are reshaping therapy by improving efficacy, safety, and patient adherence. This session highlights novel systems such as nanotechnology-based platforms, targeted approaches, and alternative administration routes. We will also explore the growing opportunities for start-ups to translate these innovations into market-ready solutions, creating new avenues for personalized medicine, partnerships, and investment.</p>	<p>Presentations by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Ester Weijers, PhD</b>, CEO Ntrans Technologies</li> <li>▪ <b>Prof. dr. Patrick van Rijn</b>, Professor Translational &amp; Regenerative Biomaterials at UMCG</li> <li>▪ </li> </ul>
<p><b>2b. From Innovation to Market: Trends, Challenges and Lessons Learned in Diagnostics</b></p> <p><i>hosted by</i></p>  <p>Moderator: Caroline Rosseel</p>	<p>This session delves into molecular diagnostics, examining market trends, technological innovations, and the investment landscape that drive progress in the field. It will share lessons learned in bringing diagnostic products to market and outline the path from startup to corporate acquisition, illustrated by real-world examples. The program will be complemented by insights from an emerging Dutch startup active in a similar domain.</p>	<p>Presentations by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Sophia Shanko PhD</b>, Founder and CEO ShanX Medtech</li> <li>▪ <b>Ing. Robert Olthuis</b>, Accountmanager at The Binding Site (part of Thermo Fisher Scientific) and Boardmember Diagned (Dutch IVD Association)</li> <li>▪ <b>Anna Ressa</b>, Manager Thematic Cluster 4 – Diagnostics and Services at Biotech Booster</li> </ul>
<p><b>2c. Licensing Success: Navigating Technology Transfer for Startups</b></p> <p><i>Hosted by</i></p>  <p>Moderator: Carine van den Brink</p>	<p>This dedicated session offers practical insights for startups in the process of licensing technologies from their university. Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs) will share what they look for in startup teams, from scientific readiness and business vision to commitment and market potential. The program includes a panel discussion with experienced TTO professionals, providing an open forum to explore best practices, common challenges, and strategies for building strong, mutually beneficial licensing agreements.</p>	<p>With panel members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Robert Al</b>, Director Technology Transfer Office Erasmus MC</li> <li>▪ <b>Anouschka Versleijen</b>, Director LURIS - Knowledge Transfer Office Leiden University</li> <li>▪ <b>Sebastiaan Huntjens</b>, Business developer at The Gate Brainport Eindhoven</li> <li>▪ <b>Tessa Scharringhausen</b>, Director Utrecht Holdings</li> </ul>





15:15      **Break**  
Time for networking and to visit the exhibition

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16.00      **Announcement and pitch winner Investors Forum and wrap up conference**

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16:15      **Closing keynote presentations**

**‘Placebo effects: from psychobiological underpinnings to novel clinical applications’**  
by Stefanie Meeuwis, Assistant Professor Tilburg University / Center for Interdisciplinary  
Placebo Studies Leiden (IPS)

*Placebo effects are beneficial treatment outcomes, such as reduced pain, that are evoked by the context in which a treatment is provided. Stefanie’s keynote will focus on how a deeper understanding of these fascinating phenomena can help us design more effective treatments, enhance patient care, and responsibly harness their power to improve health and wellbeing.*

**Ilan Ganot, CEO Alesta Therapeutics**

*Ilan Ganot is the CEO and board member at Alesta Therapeutics, a biotechnology company dedicated to the development of innovative small molecule therapies for rare diseases.  
Mr. Ganot is the co-founder, former CEO, and board member of Solid Biosciences, a precision genetic medicine company focused on advancing a portfolio of gene therapy candidates targeting rare neuromuscular diseases, such as Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, and cardiac diseases.*

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17:15      **Reception**  
*Hosted by*  
  
Time for networking and to visit the exhibition

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18:30      **End of the Dutch Life Sciences conference**

*Note: the organisation keeps the right to make changes to the program at any time.*