

ACCELERATE
INNOVATION FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WITH CANCER

STRATEGIC PARTNER:

ANDREW McDONOUGH



AGENDA FOR THE ACCELERATE ANNUAL CONFERENCE
*Shifting Gears in Paediatric
Cancer Innovation*

**5-6 FEB
2026**

**Brussels
& Online**

HEADLINE
CONFERENCE
SUPPORTER:



'THE DUAL ENGINE APPROACH'

To cure more children and adolescents with cancer, we must both accelerate the smart development and use of adult cancer innovations and build new paediatric-first development pathways to incentivize the development of specific paediatric oncology drugs.

DAY 1: 5th FEB

09:00 - 10:00	Welcome Coffee
10:00 - 10:20	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vision and Mission of ACCELERATE - <i>Nicole Scobie, ACCELERATE</i>• Goals of the Conference - The Thread - "Dual engine approach" - <i>Gilles Vassal, ACCELERATE</i>
10:20 - 11:00	ACKNOWLEDGING TODAY'S REALITY Understanding the global framework for paediatric oncology drug development for the next 5 years <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Global Oncology trends - <i>Murray Aitken, IQVIA Institute of Human Data Science; LSE (USA)</i>• Discussion: What would be the impact on pediatric cancer research and drug development?
11:10 - 12:30	Session I - Improving generation of evidence in paediatric oncology drug development <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of Real World Data: SACHA International - <i>Pablo Berlanga, Gustave Roussy (France)</i>• Advancing Childhood Cancer Academic-Industry Collaborative Platform - <i>Pamela Kearns, University of Birmingham (UK)</i>• ACCELERATE Working group on Patient Reported Outcomes – <i>Franziska Helmberg, Medical University Innsbruck (Germany)</i>• Panel Discussion
12:30 - 1:30	Lunch Advocates networking (closed session)
1:30 - 3:30	CALLING FOR A SHIFT Session II - Accelerating the development of specific paediatric oncology products <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learning from the development of antiGD2 antibodies for the treatment of neuroblastoma: an academic perspective - <i>Steven DuBois, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (USA)</i>• Development of Cuprior™ for the treatment of Wilson disease - <i>Omar Camille Kamlin, Orphanal (France)</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generating scientific evidence for specific paediatric drug development - The ITCC-LifeArc project - <i>Jan Molenaar, Princess Maxima Center for Paediatric Oncology (The Netherlands)</i> • New European initiatives : Biotech Act, European Innovation Act - <i>Vlad Olteanu, Europabio (BE)</i> • Panel discussion
3:30 - 4:00	Coffee break + group photo
4:00 - 4:45	<p>Paediatric Strategy and Impact Forums</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results of the Paediatric Strategy Forum on Antibody Drug - <i>Margaret Macy, Children's Hospital Colorado (USA)</i> • Presentation of the 2026 Paediatric Strategy Forum – <i>Pablo Berlanga, Gustave Roussy (France)</i> • Plan for future Forums and workshop – <i>Elizabeth Fox, St Jude Children's Research Hospital (USA)</i>
4:45 - 6:30	<p>Break-out sessions (on site and by zoom)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic 1: Accelerating paediatric development of adult innovations: how do we get early conduct of studies leading to regulatory approvals? • Topic 2: Developing specific paediatric oncology drugs: what are the gaps in knowledge, barriers and constraints? What are the drivers to get paediatric oncology in Start-up and Biotech companies?
6:30	End of day 1

DAY 2: 6th FEB

	<p>CHALLENGING THE SYSTEM</p> <p>Session III - Will the regulatory framework support and incentivize?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on regulatory changes for paediatric development of adult anticancer drugs in Europe - <i>Dominik Karres, European Medicines Agency (The Netherlands)</i> • Update on regulatory changes for paediatric development of adult anticancer drugs in North America - <i>Martha Donoghue, Food and Drug Administration, (USA)</i> • Changes in the Declaration of Helsinki for vulnerable populations: a paradigm change - <i>Rieke van der Graaf, MedEthicsEU (The Netherlands)</i> • Panel discussion: What role for ACCELERATE in the changing regulatory environment?
8:30 - 10:30	
4:45 - 6:30	Coffee break

DRIVING TO ACTION

Session IV - Accelerating drug paediatric development of adult innovations

11:00 - 1:00

- Access to drug for investigator supported trials - *Brenda Weigel, St Jude Children's Research Hospital (USA)*
- Cross border access to therapeutic innovations in Europe - *Francisco Bautista Sirvent, Princess Maxima Centrum (The Netherlands)*
- Facilitating access to clinical trials in Canada - *Daniel Morgenstern, Hospital for Sick Children (Canada)*
- **Report from Break Out Session topic 1 and proposing a plan**
Accelerating paediatric development of adult innovations: how do we get early conduct of studies leading to regulatory approvals?

1:00 - 2:00

Lunch

Charity Partners of ACCELERATE networking (closed session)

2:00 - 3:30

Session V - Developing paediatric-specific oncology drugs

- Igniting Childhood Cancer Gene Therapy - *Aleck Jones, Kindling Bio (UK)*
Presentation by a biotech - (TBC)
- **Report from Break Out Session topic 2**
Developing specific paediatric oncology drugs: what are the gaps in knowledge, barriers and constraints? What are the drivers to get paediatric oncology in Start-up and Biotech companies?

3:30 - 4:15

Session VI - Building the ACCELERATE work plan

Chairs: *Nicole Scobie and Gilles Vassal, ACCELERATE*

4:15 - 4:30

Wrap up

4:30

End of day 2

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR ACCELERATE PARTNERS:

