ACCELERATE
INNOVATION FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WITH CANCER

AGENDA FOR THE ACCELERATE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Shifting Gears in Paediatric Cancer Innovation

5-6 **FEB 2026**

Brussels & Online

HEADLINE CONFERENCE SUPPORTER:

Little Princess Trust

'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** • Vision and Mission of ACCELERATE - *Nicole Scobie, ACCELERATE* • Goals of the Conference - The Thread - *"Dual engine approach"* - *Gilles Vassal, ACCELERATE*
10:20 - 11:10	**ACKNOWLEDGING TODAY'S REALITY** **Understanding the global framework for paediatric oncology drug development for the next 5 years** *Chair:* Gilles Vassal, ACCELERATE (France)
10:20 - 10:40	• Global Oncology trends - *Murray Aitken, IQVIA Institute of Human Data Science; LSE (USA)*
10:40 - 11:10	• Discussion: What would be the impact on pediatric cancer research and drug development? - *Delphine Heenen, KickCancer (Belgium); Rob Pieters, Princess Maxima Center for Pediatric Oncology (The Netherlands); Peter Adamson, Servier (USA)*
11:10 - 12:30	**Session I - Improving generation of evidence in paediatric oncology drug development** *Co-chairs:* George Kirk, AstraZeneca (UK); Theodora Armenkova, Foundation Gold (Bulgaria)
11:10 - 11:25	• Use of Real Word Data: SACHA International - *Pablo Berlanga, Gustave Roussy (France)*
11:25 - 11:40	• Advancing Childhood Cancer Academic-Industry Collaborative Platform - *Pamela Kearns, University of Birmingham (UK)*
11:40 - 11:55	• ACCELERATE Working group on Patient Reported Outcomes - *Franziska Helmberg, Medical University Innsbruck (Germany)*
11:55 - 12:30	• Panel Discussion: *Olga Kholmansikh, FAMP (Belgium); Beate Wulff, F.Hoffman - La Roche (Switzerland); Antonia Palmer, Kindred Foundation Ac2orn (Canada); Pablo Berlanga, Gustave Roussy (France); Pamela Kearns, University of Birmingham (UK); Franziska Helmberg, Medical University Innsbruck (Germany)*
12:30 - 1:30	**Lunch** **Patient Advocate Networking Lunch: Stories, Strategies & Connections** *Hosted by Solving Kids' Cancer UK*
1:30 - 3:30	**CALLING FOR A SHIFT** **Session II - Accelerating the development of specific paediatric oncology products** *Chairs:* Patricia Blanc, Imagine For Margo (France); Anjali Sharma, A9 Clinical Consultants (USA)

1:30 - 1:45	• Learning from the development of antiGD2 antibodies for the treatment of neuroblastoma: an academic perspective - *Steven DuBois, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (USA)*
1:45 - 2:00	• Development of Cuprior™ for the treatment of Wilson disease - *Omar Camille Kamlin, Orphalan (France)*
2:00 - 2:15	• Generating scientific evidence for specific paediatric drug development - The ITCC-LifeArc project *Jan Molenaar, Princess Maxima Center for Paediatric Oncology (The Netherlands)*
2:15 - 2:30	• New European initiatives: Biotech Act, European Innovation Act - *Vlad Olteanu, Europabio (BE)*
2:30 - 3:30	• Panel discussion: *David Jenkinson LifeArc (UK); Sebastien Barradeau, Paris Saclay Cancer Cluster (France); Steven DuBois, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (USA); Omar Kamlin, Orphalan (France) ; Jan Molenaar, Princess Maxima Center for Paediatric Oncology (The Netherlands); Vlad Olteanu, Europabio (Belgium)*
3:30 - 4:00	**Coffee break + group photo**
4:00 - 4:45	**Paediatric Strategy and Impact Forums** ***Chair:*** *Vickie Buenger, Coalition Against Childhood Cancer (USA)*
4:00 - 4:15	• Results of the Paediatric Strategy Forum on Antibody Drug - *Meg Macy, Children's Hospital Colorado (USA) (remotely)*
4:15 - 4:30	• Presentation of the 2026 Paediatric Strategy Forum - *Pablo Berlanga, Gustave Roussy (France)*
4:30 - 4:45	• Plan for future Forums and workshop - *Elizabeth Fox, St Jude Children's Research Hospital (USA)*
5:00 - 6:30	**Break-out sessions (on site and by zoom)** • **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**
7:30	**Social Dinner** **Le Roy d'Espagne – Grand Place 1, 1000 Brussels** *Access: Metro (line 1 or 5 to Gare Centrale, a 5-minute walk from the restaurant)*

DAY 2: 6th FEB

9:00 - 10:30	**CHALLENGING THE SYSTEM** **Session III - Will the regulatory framework support and incentivize?** ***Chairs:*** *Gilles Vassal, ACCELERATE; Nick Bird, Solving Kids Cancer (UK)*
9:00 - 9:15	• Update on regulatory changes for paediatric development of adult anticancer drugs in Europe - *Dominik Karres, European Medicines Agency (The Netherlands)*
9:15 - 9:30	• Update on regulatory changes for paediatric development of adult anticancer drugs in North America - *Martha Donoghue, Food and Drug Administration, (USA)*

9:30 - 9:45	• Changes in the Declaration of Helsinki for vulnerable populations: a paradigm change - *Rieke van der Graaf, MedEthicsEU (The Netherlands)*
9:45 - 10:30	• Panel discussion: What role for ACCELERATE in the changing regulatory environment? - *Michelle Garcia, AMGEN (USA); Bram De Wilde, UZ Gent (Belgium); Delphine Heenen, KickCancer (Belgium); Gesine Bejeuhr, Bayer (Germany); Dominik Karres, European Medicines Agency (The Netherlands); Rieke van der Graaf, MedEthicsEU (The Netherlands)*

10:30 - 11:00	**Coffee break**

11:00 - 12:45	**DRIVING TO ACTION**
	Session IV - Accelerating drug paediatric development of adult innovations
	Chairs: *Michela Casanova, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori (Italy); Michele Cleary, Advancium (USA)*
11:00 - 11:15	• Access to drug for investigator supported trials - *Brenda Weigel, St Jude Children's Research Hospital (USA)*
11:15 - 11:30	• Cross border access to therapeutic innovations in Europe - *Francisco Bautista Sirvent, Princess Maxima Centrum (The Netherlands)*
11:30 - 11:45	• Facilitating access to clinical trials in Canada - *Daniel Morgenstern, Hospital for Sick Children (Canada)*
11:45 - 12:45	• **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? - *Pamela Kearns, University of Birmingham (UK); Scott Diede, MSD (USA); Douglas Hawkins, Seattle Children's Hospital (USA); Dominik Karres, European Medicines Agency (The Netherlands); Lynley Marshall, The Royal Marsden Hospital (UK)*

12:45 - 2:00	**Lunch**
	Charity Partners of ACCELERATE networking (closed session)

2:00 - 3:30	**Session V - Developing paediatric-specific oncology drugs**
	Chairs: *Iris Valtingojer, Sanofi (France); Lucy Jones, Neuroblastoma Australia (Australia)*
2:00 - 2:15	• Igniting Childhood Cancer Gene Therapy - *Aleck Jones, Kindling Bio (UK)*
2:15 - 3:30	• **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? - *Steven DuBois, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (USA), Anjali Sharma, A9 Clinical Consultants (USA); David Jenkinson, LifeArc (UK); Donna Ludwinski, Solving Kids' Cancer (USA); Elly Barry, Day One Biopharmaceuticals (USA); Brenda Weigel, St Jude Children's Research Hospital (USA); Meg Macy, Children's Hospital Colorago (USA)*

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**