

**ACCELERATE**  
INNOVATION FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WITH CANCER

**12<sup>th</sup> ACCELERATE  
PAEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**8-9 FEBRUARY, 2024  
BRUSSELS & ONLINE**



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## BIOGRAPHIES

### Speakers, Chairs & Panelists

**8-9 February 2024**  
**Brussels & Online**

**Tangla Hotel Brussels**



**Gilles Vassal**

Trained as a Paediatric Oncologist, he got his PhD in Pharmacology. He is Professor of Oncology in University Paris Saclay and Gustave Roussy, a large Comprehensive Cancer Center in France. For the last 20 years, he has dedicated his research, clinical and training activities to the development of new drugs for children and adolescents with cancer. He is currently President of the EU Academic Consortium for Innovative Therapies for Children with Cancer and past President of SIOPE, the European Society of Paediatric Oncology. He is chairing the ACCELERATE International multi-stakeholder platform to speed up innovation for children and adolescents with cancer. In 2020, he received the Leonard M. Rosen Memorial Research Award for his outstanding contribution to childhood cancer policy and advocacy. As a SIOPE representative, he is co-leading WP4 of the IMI2 Conect4Children network ([www.conect4children.org](http://www.conect4children.org)) and coordinates the development of Multi-stakeholder meetings to best address unmet pediatric needs. Author of more than 250 publications in peer-reviewed journals, he is member of several Scientific Councils.

Franco Locatelli is a Full Professor of Pediatrics at the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart in Rome and Head of the Department of Paediatric Haematology and Oncology and Cell and Gene Therapy, at the Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital in Rome. He has been the President of the Italian Association for Pediatric Haematology-Oncology AIEOP from 2004 to 2006, and served as chairman of the European EWOG-MDS consortium from 2005 to 2011. Professor Locatelli is an expert of hematological malignant and non-malignant disorders of childhood. Prof. Locatelli is the author or co-author of 1.349 peer-reviewed articles published in international journals (including New England Journal of Medicine, JAMA, Nature, Nature Genetics, Nature Communications, The Lancet, etc.) with more than 62.480 citations and he has an H-index of 120 (Scopus source). Since February 2019 until now, Prof. Locatelli is serving as President of the National Council of Health (Consiglio Superiore di Sanità). On December 2021, he was nominated 1st Class/Knight Grand Cross (Cavaliere di Gran Croce) by the President of the Italian Republic.



**Franco Locatelli**



**Pamela Kearns**

Professor Pam Kearns is Chair of Clinical Pediatric Oncology at the University of Birmingham and an Honorary Consultant Pediatric Oncologist at Birmingham Children's Hospital. She is Director of the University's Institute of Cancer and Genomic Sciences and was the Director of Birmingham's Cancer Research UK Clinical Trials Unit from 2012-2023, leading the research strategy for one of UK's largest cancer trials unit, including the national trials portfolio for children and young people with cancer. She has served on the Board of SIOP Europe since 2013 and was President from 2019 to 2021. In January 2024, Pam became President of the European consortium; Innovative Therapies for Children with Cancer' (ITCC). She is also an Executive Board and Steering Committee member for the International multi-stakeholder platform 'ACCELERATE'. She is on the Board of Trustees for Cancer Research UK and chairs the Board of Trustees for a 'A Child of Mine', a charity dedicated to supporting bereaved parents. She Chairs both the Research Assessment Panel for GOSH Charity and of The Independent Scientific Advisory Panel for Bone Cancer Research Trust.

Sam's commitment to pediatric oncology is inspired by a tragic personal experience. In 2017 his 2 year old daughter Fé was diagnosed with an aggressive brain tumor. 6 months later, Fé passed away from the malignancy leaving his family devastated, but also committed to contribute to the fight against cancer. Sam Daems is Principal at Waterland, a pan-European private equity group. In this role Sam evaluates investment strategies, structures complex transactions and supports companies in defining and improving their operating model. Prior to joining Waterland, Sam built experience as management consultant at Bain & Company and leading the Business Development and Transformation team at the publicly traded global industrial conglomerate Tessenlerlo Group. As of February 1st, Sam will be conducting research at ULB's Institute for Interdisciplinary Innovation in Healthcare (I3h), focusing on structural improvements to accelerate innovation in pediatric oncology. Sam's commitment to pediatric oncology is inspired by a tragic personal experience. In 2017 his 2 year old daughter Fé was diagnosed with an aggressive brain tumor. 6 months later, Fé passed away from the malignancy leaving his family devastated, but also committed to contribute to the fight against cancer.



**Sam Daems**



**Patricia Blanc**

Patricia Blanc is founder and president of Imagine for Margo-Children without cancer, French charity, created in 2011 after her daughter, Margo, died from a brain tumor. Imagine for Margo is the leading national parents organization raising funds to support the development of innovative therapies for children with cancer. Patricia Blanc is also very active in advocacy efforts towards French and European politicians, regulators and pharmaceutical industry to make laws and research more adapted to better treatments for children with cancer. Patricia had an international career in investment and retail banking, working in Paris, Johannesburg and New York. She received the Vanity Fair award of the 50 most influential French people in the world as well as the Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite recognition. Patricia is a member of the European Economic and Social Committee, Member of Childhood Cancer International-Europe, Member of the Scientific committee of the SFCE (Société Française de lutte contre les Cancers et leucémies de l'Enfant et de l'adolescent), Past Member of the Cancer Mission Assembly and Steering Committee Member of ACCELERATE.

Thomas Rooney is the Global Project Leader for R&D Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) at Sanofi. He is responsible for leading and implementing R&D CSR projects & strategy and managing the R&D contribution to Sanofi sustainability reporting and performance. This includes managing efforts to ensure R&D support for Sanofi CSR flagship projects, to increase visibility, awareness and engagement of R&D CSR activities and to demonstrate that R&D CSR creates value and societal benefit. He is also a member of the Steering Committee of the Sanofi R&D CSR flagship program on Childhood Cancer.



**Thomas Rooney**

Leona is Head of Research at Solving Kids' Cancer UK, a non-profit organisation driving international collaboration to speed up pioneering clinical research that could improve outcomes for children. Leona's son Oscar died of neuroblastoma following extensive therapy in the UK and US. She is a passionate advocate dedicated to multi-stakeholder working for the benefit of children with cancer. Leona is founding Chair of the SIOPEN Advocate Committee, a member of both the ITCC Advocate Committee and the ITCC Sponsor Committee, AACR Affiliate Member, and ACCELERATE Steering Committee member.



**Leona Knox**



Steffen Thirstrup Chief Medical Officer at European Medicines Agency. He is a medical doctor and board-certified specialist in clinical pharmacology and therapeutics. He holds a PhD in pharmacology and has a background in clinical internal medicine with special emphasis on adult respiratory medicine.

**Steffen Thirstrup**

Alessandro Aiuti is M.D., Ph.D., Haematologist. He is Deputy Director, Clinical Research Coordinator, and Head of Unit on Pathogenesis and Therapy of PID of the San Raffaele Telethon Institute for Gene Therapy (SR-Tiget) in Milan; full Professor of Pediatrics and Director of the Residency Program of Pediatrics, Vita-Salute San Raffaele University in Milan, Italy; Director of the Pediatric Immunohematology Unit, San Raffaele Hospital, Milan. He is member (representing clinicians) of the Committee for Advanced Therapies (CAT) of the European Medicines Agency (EMA) (as from July 1, 2019). He is author of more than 280 peer reviewed publications. His main research interests are in the field of pediatric hematology and immunology, particularly pathogenesis and treatment of primary immunodeficiency. He has pioneered the EU market approval of the first ex vivo gene therapy for a genetic disease and led successful clinical application of gene therapy with hematopoietic stem/progenitor cell engineered for the treatment of inherited diseases of the immune system, inborn errors of metabolism and other blood disorders.



**Alessandro Aiuti**





**Martha  
Donoghue**

Martha Donoghue, MD is the Associate Director for Pediatric Oncology and Rare Cancers in the FDA's Oncology Center of Excellence, Office of the Commissioner and the Acting Associate Director for Pediatric Oncology in the Office of Oncologic Diseases, Center of Drug Evaluation and Research. In these roles, she oversees the implementation of the pediatric regulations designed to facilitate the timely investigation of drugs and biological products for pediatric patients with cancer and promotes consistent and efficient interactions with stakeholders involved in developing drugs to treat pediatric cancers across the FDA oncology review divisions. She serves on several FDA and stakeholder working groups and committees to facilitate development of drugs to treat rare cancers, including pediatric cancers. Prior to joining FDA in 2009, Dr. Donoghue completed a fellowship in Pediatric Hematology and Oncology at the Children's National Medical Center after working for several years as a general pediatrician in private practice. She received her medical degree from Emory University and completed a residency in general pediatrics at the Georgetown University Medical Center.

Kerstin Sollerbrant is Senior Expert at the Swedish Childhood Cancer Fund, PhD and Associate Professor in Cell and Molecular Biology at Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm and Patient Representative in EMAs Committee for Advanced Therapies.



**Kerstin Sollerbrant**



**Andy Pearson**

Prof. Andy Pearson is formerly a Cancer Research UK Professor of Paediatric Oncology, at the Institute of Cancer Research and the Royal Marsden Hospital NHS Trust. Prof Pearson led the first paediatric Phase I study in the UK. He was Chair of National Cancer Research Institute Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Clinical Studies Group Novel Agents Subgroup. He was the founding chair of International Society for Paediatric Oncology Europe Neuroblastoma Committee (SIOPEN). Prof Pearson is a member of the Executive Committee of the Innovative Therapy for Children with Cancer Consortium (ITCC), Chair of the Paediatric Strategy Forum Oversight Committee, Senior Advisor to the Steering Committee of ACCELERATE. He has published over 400 manuscripts on neuroblastoma and early drug development. He retired from clinical practice in May 2014 due to ill health.



**Max Williamson**

Max Williamson is a co-chair of the ACCELERATE FAIR Trials group patient advocate for young people with cancer and medical doctor based in the UK. He was diagnosed with a germ cell tumour at age 15, and is now 10 years in remission. He has worked as a patient advocate for young people with cancer in clinical research since 2016, and has been a member of the FAIR trials group since 2018, working to rationalise age limits in clinical trials which can exclude young people with cancer. He has worked with the European Forum of Good Clinical Practice, UK National Institute of Health Research, and Cancer Research on this issue. He is also a medical doctor working in Glasgow, Scotland.

Inês is a paediatric oncology fellow. From 2011-2017, she did her training in General Paediatrics at University Hospital Centre of São João (Porto, Portugal). After obtaining the specialty degree in General Paediatrics, she started a fellowship in Paediatric Oncology in the same hospital (from July/2017 to March/2023). Currently, Inês is a research fellow at ACCELERATE under the ALADDIN Project.



**Inês Alves**



**David Riedl**

David Riedl works as a clinical psychologist and senior researcher at the Medical University of Innsbruck and the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Rehabilitation Research. He holds a PhD in psychology from the University of Innsbruck and is a state certified clinical psychologist. He specialized in psychosomatic and psycho-oncological research, with a focus on health-related quality of life and patient-reported outcomes in pediatric oncology.

Cornelis is leading the Clinical Trial Unit at Hopp Children's Cancer Center (KITZ) in Heidelberg, Germany. In addition, he is Group Leader of the Trial Development Group at the Pediatric Oncology Clinical Cooperation Unit of the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ) and Consultant Pediatric Hematology and Oncology the Heidelberg University Hospital, Germany. Cornelis is leading multiple clinical trials, and has major interest in the development of biomarker driven pediatric oncology early phase clinical combination trials with a special interest in pediatric CNS- and solid tumors. Furthermore, he is involved in several initiatives to reduce regulatory challenges for pediatric oncology patients and patient advocacy involvement therein.



**Cornelis van  
Tilburg**



**Teresa de Rojas**

Teresa de Rojas. Dr. Teresa de Rojas is a pediatric oncologist, MD-PhD, with a special interest for drug development and oncogenomics. She joined ACCELERATE as Scientific Coordinator in 2020 and is currently coordinating the educational platform ALADDIN. Dr. de Rojas started her research career as medical fellow at the FIB-HNJ Clinical Research Unit, in Madrid (2015-2016). She worked at the EORTC (European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer) in Brussels, as medical research fellow (2017-2020), and as post-doc researcher at Hospital Niño Jesús in Madrid, co-leading the Pediatric OncoGenomics Unit (2020). Dr. de Rojas is Member of SIOPE's Education Committee, and Clinical Expert for the Adolescent Medicine Expert Group of the Conect4Children (c4c) Consortium. She is faculty member of the Pediatric Oncology Training Program at the Uganda Cancer Institute, Kampala, Uganda, combining her interest in educational and non-for-profit, international cooperation projects.

Dr. Brivio is a clinical and research fellow in pediatric oncology at the Princes Màxima Centrum, in Utrecht. Her research activity is focused on designing and implementing early phase clinical trials in hematologic malignancies. The main projects of her Ph.D. program have been two intent-to file trials, sponsored by her institution. One of these has already led to the FDA approval of bosutinib for children with CML. She is a member of the ITCC hematology-committee. Through the Aladdin program she has been able to work as a collaborating expert at the EMA for the past six months.



**Erica Brivio**



**Pablo Velasco**

Pablo has been a physician in the Pediatric Oncology and Hematology Department since 2012. My medical and research activities primarily focus on Sickle Cell Disease and Pediatric ALL. Throughout my career, I have been dedicated to providing comprehensive care for these diseases, which includes direct patient care, clinical and translational research, including preclinical studies. I have also actively participated in 13 clinical trials as a principal investigator (PI) or co-investigator and have authored 30 scientific articles and 1 book chapter related to these conditions. Additionally, I hold the position of associate professor at the Faculty of Medicine at UAB and serve as the co-coordinator of the Pediatric Hematology Working Group of the Catalan Society of Pediatrics, as well as the ReALLNet project (Spanish R/R ped ALL network).





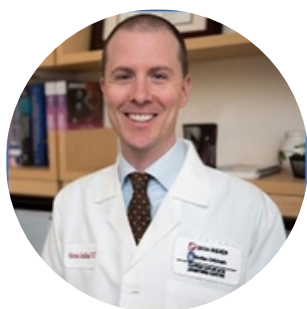
**Alan Pearson**

Alan's daughter Clíodhna was diagnosed with Stage IV High Risk Neuroblastoma shortly after her 4th Birthday. Clíodhna underwent almost six years of treatment, suffering multiple relapses and sadly passed away in his arms two weeks before her 10th birthday in September 2021. A Biotechnologist (B.Sc) and a Chemical Engineer (Ph.D.), Alan is an experienced biopharmaceutical professional with over 20 years in research, development, engineering and operations. He has worked in small molecule API, oral solid dose, biologics, sterile injectables and cell and gene therapy. Alan is a Patient advocate working with Childhood Cancer Ireland where he is Chair of the PPIE and Research Committee. Alan recently Joined the extended SIOPEN Advocate Network and is part of the full programme of the Aladdin course on strategic/regulatory science.

Nick's son, Adam, was diagnosed with high-risk neuroblastoma in 2009 at the age of 5. Adam's disease did not respond to chemotherapy and despite treatment in the UK, Germany, and America, he died at home 4 years later. Today Nick continues to be involved in paediatric cancer as a research advocate and holds a number of voluntary positions. He is a former member of the UK National Cancer Research Institute's Children's Group and current neuroblastoma sub-group member, Chair of the Innovative Therapies for Children with Cancer (ITCC) Advocate Committee, Chair of Trustees for the non-profit organisation Solving Kids' Cancer UK, and Patient and Public Voice Partner for NHS England Clinical Reference Group for Children and Young People's Cancer.



**Nick Bird**



**Steven DuBois**

Steven DuBois is a pediatric oncologist and Director, Experimental Therapeutics at the Dana-Farber / Boston Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders Center. He is Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School. He leads a clinical and translational research program focused on developing novel targeted therapies and biomarkers relevant to children with advanced solid tumors, particularly Ewing sarcoma and neuroblastoma. He has led multiple phase 1, 2, and 3 clinical trials. He serves on several US national committees, including ASCO Scientific Program Committee, COG Bone Tumor and Neuroblastoma executive committees, and FDA Pediatric ODAC.



**Lia Gore**

Lia Gore is a Professor with Tenure at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and Chief of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology/Bone Marrow Transplant and Cellular Therapeutics at Children's Hospital Colorado in the US. Her research is focused on the development of novel cancer therapeutics with an emphasis on high-risk diseases and improving access to clinical trials for children. She has been a Principal Investigator or co-Investigator on more than 200 national and international clinical trials. She is a founding co-director of the University of Colorado's NCI designated Comprehensive Cancer Center's Hematological Malignancies Program, and currently serves as a co-director of the Developmental Therapeutics Program. Dr. Gore is the group-wide Vice Chair of the Children's Oncology Group.

Chinyere Okpara, PhD, is Executive Director, Clinical Development at Eisai. Dr Okpara has been a key contributor to Eisai's success and has played a vital role in helping the company to achieve its goals and fulfill its commitment to cancer patients. Chinyere joined Eisai in 2017 after having worked in the pharmaceutical industry with Takeda, Ono Pharma, Roche and Pfizer. She has over 14 years' clinical development experience. Chinyere's expertise, high work ethics and impressive dedication were evident from her early days at Eisai, which led to being assigned roles of increasing responsibilities. In her current role, she is adult and pediatric clinical development lead for the Lenvima international project team. In addition, Chinyere is a co-founder of ePOG (Eisai Pediatric Oncology Group), an initiative instituted to provide guidance to clinical development teams on how to initiate their respective pediatric plans, overseeing the pediatric work being conducted by the project teams to guide them in delivering their pediatric strategy.



**Chinyere Okpara**



**Kathy  
Brodeur-Robb**

Kathy Brodeur-Robb is the Executive Director of C17 Council, the Canadian pediatric hematology/ oncology network. Initiated in 2004 by the Directors of the 16 Canadian programs, the network focuses on research grant funding, regulatory compliance and oversight, access to academic international and national clinical trials, education and advocacy. She leads an office that is responsible for over 300 academic clinical trials filed with Health Canada working with over 20 North American and international academic cooperative groups and participated in several national initiatives, including developing the 3CTN Canadian Remote Access Framework for Clinical Trials (CRAFT).



**Francisco Bautista**

Dr Francisco Bautista is a Pediatric Oncologist at the Princess Máxima Center and researcher affiliated to the Trial and Data Centrum (TDC) and part of its Steering Committee. Prior, he was consultant of the Pediatric Oncology Service and Head of the Clinical Trials Unit of Hospital Niño Jesús (Madrid, Spain). He has extensive experience in the field of translational research in oncology and a strong presence in international cooperative groups. Since January 2024 he is the Chair of the Sponsor Committee of the ITCC, member of the ITCC Leukemia/Lymphoma Steering Committee since 2021 and Chair of the iBFM Early Clinical Trials Group also since 2021. He is co-author of more than 50 peer-reviewed manuscripts and holds a PhD title.

Nicole Scobie is the president and a founding member of Zoé4life, a non-profit organization based in Switzerland which supports children with cancer and their families, as well as pediatric oncology research. As a parent of a childhood cancer survivor, she is an advocate for improving access to treatment as well as accelerating the development of new, better therapies for childhood cancer. Nicole is a member of the ACCELERATE Steering Committee and is also a Committee Member of Childhood Cancer International (CCI) Europe. Nicole is one of the founders and a member of both the ITCC Advocate Committee and the SIOPEN Advocate Committee.



**Nicole Scobie**



**Angelika Joos**

Angelika is pharmacist by training and currently Executive Director, Global Regulatory Policy at MSD with more than 25 years' international work experience. She is a member of MSD's global Pediatric Development Committee that advises on the company's paediatric development programs and has led the regulatory strategy for one of the first successful paediatric programs under the EU Paediatric Regulation. Angelika has been actively involved in Pediatric issues since 2001. Working with European trade associations, she supported and followed the EU Pediatric Regulation through its legal decision-making process within the European Institutions and was involved in education and training during the implementation of the law. Since 2004, she is a member of several pediatric expert working groups and currently co-chair of the efpia paediatric expert group. Since 2008, she is also a member of the European Good Clinical Practice Forum (EFGCP) Medicines for Children Working Group (CMWG) and has participated in the Harvard MRCT Project "Promoting Global Clinical Research in Children".



**Julia Glade-Bender**

Julia Glade Bender is the Vice Chairman for Clinical Research in the Department of Pediatrics at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSK Kids), Co-Director of the Lisa and Scott Stuart Center for Adolescent and Young Adult Cancers, and a full Member (Professor) at Memorial Hospital. She has chaired multiple early phase clinical trials sponsored by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the Children's Oncology Group (COG), and pharmaceutical industry. More recently, her research has focused on the clinical implementation of pediatric precision oncology. She currently serves as consultant to the Pediatric Oncologic Drugs Advisory Committee (ODAC) of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), sits on the Steering Committee for the Pediatric NCI-MATCH (Pediatric Molecular Analysis for Therapy Choice) and serves as the lead COG investigator for the NCI-ComboMATCH. She is a member of the ACCELERATE FAIR Trials Working Group.

Brenda Weigel, MD, is the Director of the Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and is a Professor cross-appointed at the University of Minnesota's Masonic Cancer Center and the Department of Pediatrics. She is the recipient of the Lehman/Children's Cancer Research Fund Endowed Chair in Pediatric Cancer. Dr. Weigel's major research interests have been advancing new therapies for children with cancer. She is Chair of the Children's Oncology Group Developmental Therapeutics Committee and the Pediatric Early Phase Clinical Trials Network. Dr. Weigel serves on the ACCELERATE Strategy Forum Oversight Committee.



**Brenda Weigel**



**Anjali Sharma**

Anjali is a Pediatric Hematologist- Oncologist who is the global development lead for Pediatric Oncology drug development at Gilead sciences since 2023. She received her medical degree from Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi, India, after which she completed her pediatric internship and residency at University of Illinois, Chicago. Her research and clinical focus have been on pediatric oncology / solid tumors as well as bleeding disorders (benign hematology). In 2015, she joined Amgen where she worked in medical affairs and then in clinical development supporting many adult Oncology teams. Prior to joining Gilead, she was at CRISPR therapeutics as the global development lead for the Thalassemia trial and later supported the development of the CD70 targeted Allo CarT. She was recently elected as a member of the Industry Relations committee by the Children's Oncology group in 2023.





**Scott Diede**

Scott Diede, MD, PhD, is Executive Director, Global Clinical Development, and leads the Pediatric Oncology Asset Development Team at Merck Sharp & Dohme (MSD). He has helped secure several approvals, notably for patients with melanoma as well as six indications in a wide variety of tumor types which include a pediatric age range to help ensure access for children with cancer. He received his MD and PhD degrees from The University of Chicago and completed his general pediatrics residency and pediatric hematology/oncology fellowship at the University of Washington/Seattle Children's/Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. Before joining MSD, his academic focus was on examining the role of epigenetic changes in cancer.

Lynley Marshall. Dr Lynley Marshall completed her undergraduate training in Johannesburg, South Africa and postgraduate training in paediatrics and then paediatric oncology in Bristol, Oxford and The Royal Marsden Hospital in London where she leads the Paediatric and Adolescent Oncology Drug Development Team, focusing on oncology drug development and experimental therapeutics for high risk, poor prognosis malignancies, specifically solid tumours and neuro-oncology. She is current chair of the NCRI Children's Novel Agents Subgroup and a member of the Innovative Therapies for Children with Cancer (ITCC) European Early Phase Trials Consortium Solid Tumour Group Steering Committee. She has a PhD from the Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) in the area of novel therapeutics for paediatric high grade glioma and holds an Honorary Faculty (Senior Lecturer) position at The ICR. She is a member of the ACCELERATE Executive Committee and active in the FAIR Trials Working Group and the Paediatric Strategy Forum initiatives.



**Lynley Marshall**



**Elizabeth Fox**

Beth Fox is a pediatric oncologist with expertise in clinical pharmacology. She is the Senior Vice President of Clinical Trials Research Administration and Associate Director of Clinical Research in the St Jude Children's Research hospital Comprehensive Cancer Center. In addition, she is the Vice Chair of the NCI COG Pediatric Early Phase Clinical Trials Network and Developmental Therapeutics Committee. For more than 25 years, Dr. Fox has designed and led early phase clinical trials including innovative trials including investigator initiated, cooperative group and trials in collaboration with pharmaceutical industry partners. Dr. Fox serves on the ACCELERATE Strategy Forum Oversight Committee.





**Michel Zwaan**

Michel Zwaan is registered as a pediatric oncologist in 1999 after training at the VU Medical Center Amsterdam. He obtained his PhD on 'Drug Resistance in Pediatric AML', and defended it cum laude in 2003. In 2005 he moved to Erasmus MC-Sophia Children's Hospital, Rotterdam, and focused on translational research into myeloid malignancies and early drug development. In 2014 he was appointed as professor in Pediatric Oncology with emphasis on drug development' and he led the department of Pediatric Oncology/Hematology in Rotterdam from 2014-2018, after which he started working at the Princess Máxima Center for Pediatric Oncology in Utrecht. There he is appointed as a working group leader for Drug Development/ Experimental Therapeutics and Medical Chair of the Trial and Data Center. He is a member of the Executive Board of ITCC and chairs the Hematology Committee of ITCC. He is an international coordinating Principal Investigator of several studies conducted in the regulatory context of a Pediatric Investigational Plan (intent to file), with Erasmus MC or Princess Máxima acting as international coordinator/ sponsor. This work led to the approval of various drugs for pediatric leukemia. He also chairs the Ethics Committee of the METC Utrecht (MedNec).

Kim joined the Paul-Ehrlich-Institute (PEI) as a GCP inspector in 2012. He is currently seconded as a National Expert to the EMAs Inspections office. Kim works as the coordinator of the ACT EU Priority Action 4 which deals with the modernization of Good Clinical practice (GCP) in light of the renovation of the International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH) E6(R2) guideline on GCP and as support staff to the ICH E6(R3) expert working group regulatory chair.



**Kim Pietsch**



**Mark Kieran**

After 20 years as Director of Pediatric Neuro-Oncology at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Boston Children's Hospital focused on the development and clinical translation of novel targeted and gene therapies for children with brain cancer, Dr. Kieran transitioned to industry and is currently the VP of Clinical Development at Day One Biopharmaceuticals, a company focused on the development of targeted drugs for children with cancer. With a PhD in Immunology from the University of Alberta, Canada and two post-doctoral fellowships in molecular biology (Paris, France) and cellular signal transduction (Harvard, Boston) as well as his sub-specialization in pediatric neuro-oncology, his career has focused on advancing our understanding of pediatric diseases, improving their treatment, educating the next generation of pediatric oncologists and ensuring greater access to treatments in developing countries. He continues to support a number of foundation scientific advisory boards reviewing grants and other funding proposals in addition to a number of educational initiatives.



**Davy Chiodin**

Dr. Chiodin has more than 20 years of pharmaceutical and biotech industry experience and 15 years of oncology development experience across tumor types and stages of development. In his current role at Day One Bio, Davy oversees Regulatory Science, Development Operations, Biometrics, Program Management and Quality Assurance. Prior to joining Day One in 2019, Davy was at Acerta, a member of the AstraZeneca group, where he led the team through the acalabrutinib global filings and the build of the AZ hematology franchise. Prior to AstraZeneca, Davy spent more than 10 years at Roche/Genentech, assuming roles of increased responsibility in the Regulatory function in both Europe and the US, including 2 years fully dedicated to the pediatric oncology portfolio. He has remained an active contributor to the pediatric oncology community since then. Davy received his PharmD from the University of Grenoble, France, and a Master in Regulatory Affairs and Pharmacoeconomics from the universities of Lille and Paris, France.

Dominik received his medical degree from the University Erlangen, Germany, followed by a MD in paediatric drug development. He held a training post in paediatric haematology/ oncology (University Hospital Muenster) and worked as a clinical fellow in paediatric oncology and paediatric oncology drug development in the UK (Royal Marsden Hospital & Institute of Cancer Research UK). In 2014 he joined the UK's medicines regulatory agency (MHRA) with positions in the Licensing and Post-marketing Division. Since 2018 he works as Senior Scientific Specialist at the EMA's Paediatric Medicines Office. Dominik is supporting the agency's efforts further fostering paediatric oncology drug development. In this capacity he is also the EMA's nominee to the ACCELERATE Steering Committee.



**Dominik Karres**



**Donna  
Ludwinski**

Donna is a parent of Erik diagnosed at age 6 with neuroblastoma in 1991. Erik relapsed after 14 years of remission and died at age 24 in 2010. Highly engaged in the global parent/patient community for 15 years, Donna has worked for Solving Kids' Cancer in New York and London overseeing research funding and advocating for families everywhere. She is passionate about medical literacy, informed decision making, and mentoring advocates to make meaningful contributions to the research landscape. She serves on several committees and advisories including the International Collaboration and Fit-For-Filing WGs, NCI Pediatric Central Review Board, New Approaches to Neuroblastoma Parent Advisory, FDA Pediatric Oncologic Drugs Advisory Committees, and was a founding board member of Coalition Against Childhood Cancer. Donna received her degree in chemical engineering.