

MEB Science Day 2023

Biomarkers and Companion Diagnostics
The future of precision medicine

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A status update on the MEB Science Policy 2020-2024

Marjon Pasmooij

Science Department, Medicines Evaluation Board

13 April 2023

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“To make medicines available that are both safe and effective, we need to do our job as good as possible. Regulatory Science research helps us to improve our assessment of medicines, to gather more knowledge and thus to do our work better”

Prof. Marcel Bouvy, MEB Board member

- In line with Strategic Business Plan 2020 – 2024
- Regulatory Science research connected to the assessment work, and aimed at improvement or innovation
- Research questions based on questions from own organisation
- (More) Attention to the connection of scientific research, education and the daily assessment work
- More attention for the patient perspective

Eight themes

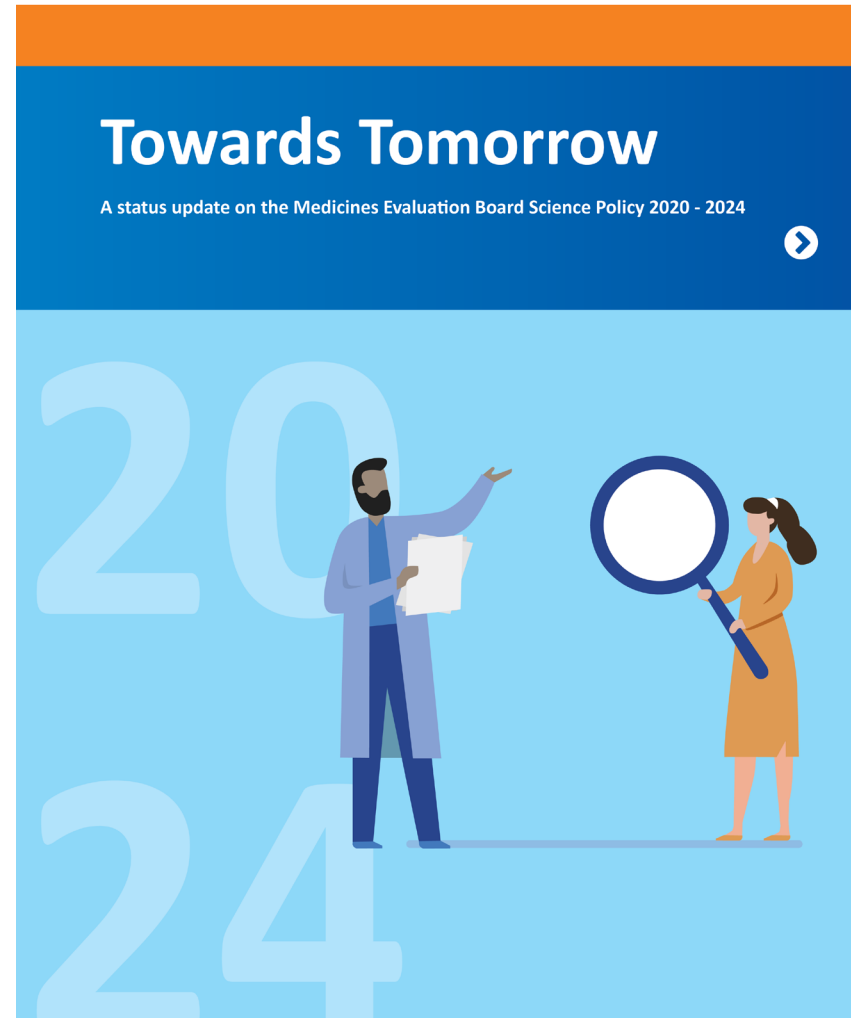
$\frac{C \ B \ G}{M \ E \ B}$

1. Replacement, reduction and refinement of animal tests (3Rs)
2. Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMPs)
3. Data-driven assessment
4. Personalised medicine & biomarkers
5. Medical devices
6. Generics
7. Medicines used better
8. Safety and effectiveness after authorisation



Status Update MEB Science Policy 2020 - 2024


Today published...



Status Update MEB Science Policy 2020 - 2024

$\frac{c \ B \ G}{M \ E \ B}$ | MEDICINES EVALUATION BOARD

Home Programme Speakers



MEB SCIENCE DAY 2023

Thursday 13 April 2023
Time: 11.45 – 18.00
Location: Auditorium Mediaplaza, Jaarbeurs Utrecht

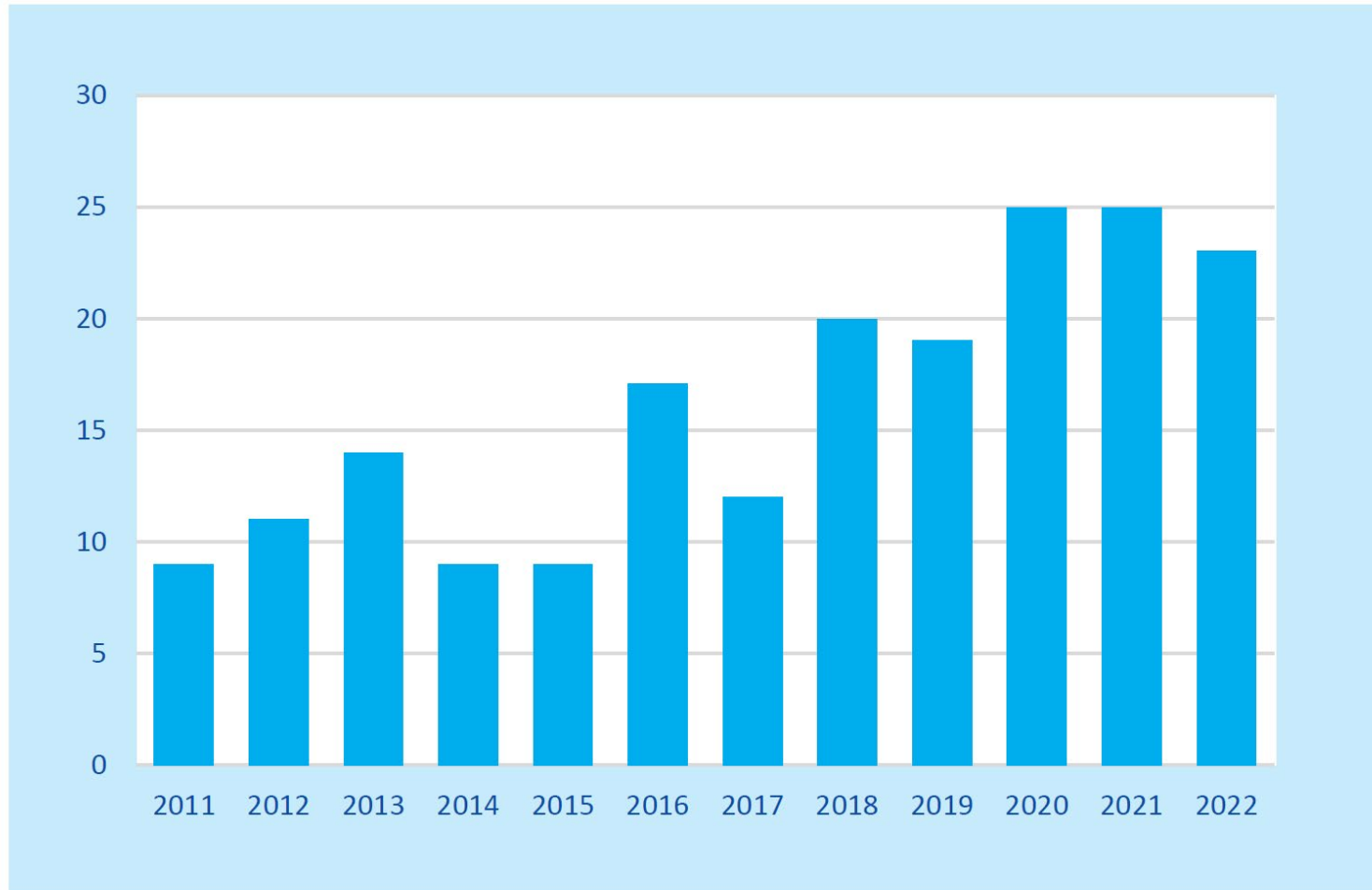
Towards Tomorrow

A status update on the Medicines Evaluation Board Science Policy 2020 – 2024

The MEB adopted eight main themes within the Science Policy 2020–2024 “Regulating with the Knowledge of Tomorrow”. Many of the themes are relevant for developing medicines for humans and animals. In this brochure, the MEB zooms in on the progress we have made for each of these themes. Furthermore, based on developments in the last few years, we describe progress in other areas, such as male/female differences and sustainability. Lastly, we highlight two specific projects: STARS (Strengthening Training of Regulatory Science in Academia) and the European Medicines Regulatory Database. Many scientific activities were performed in collaboration with bachelor’s, master’s and PhD students. This brochure also includes interviews with all PhD students.

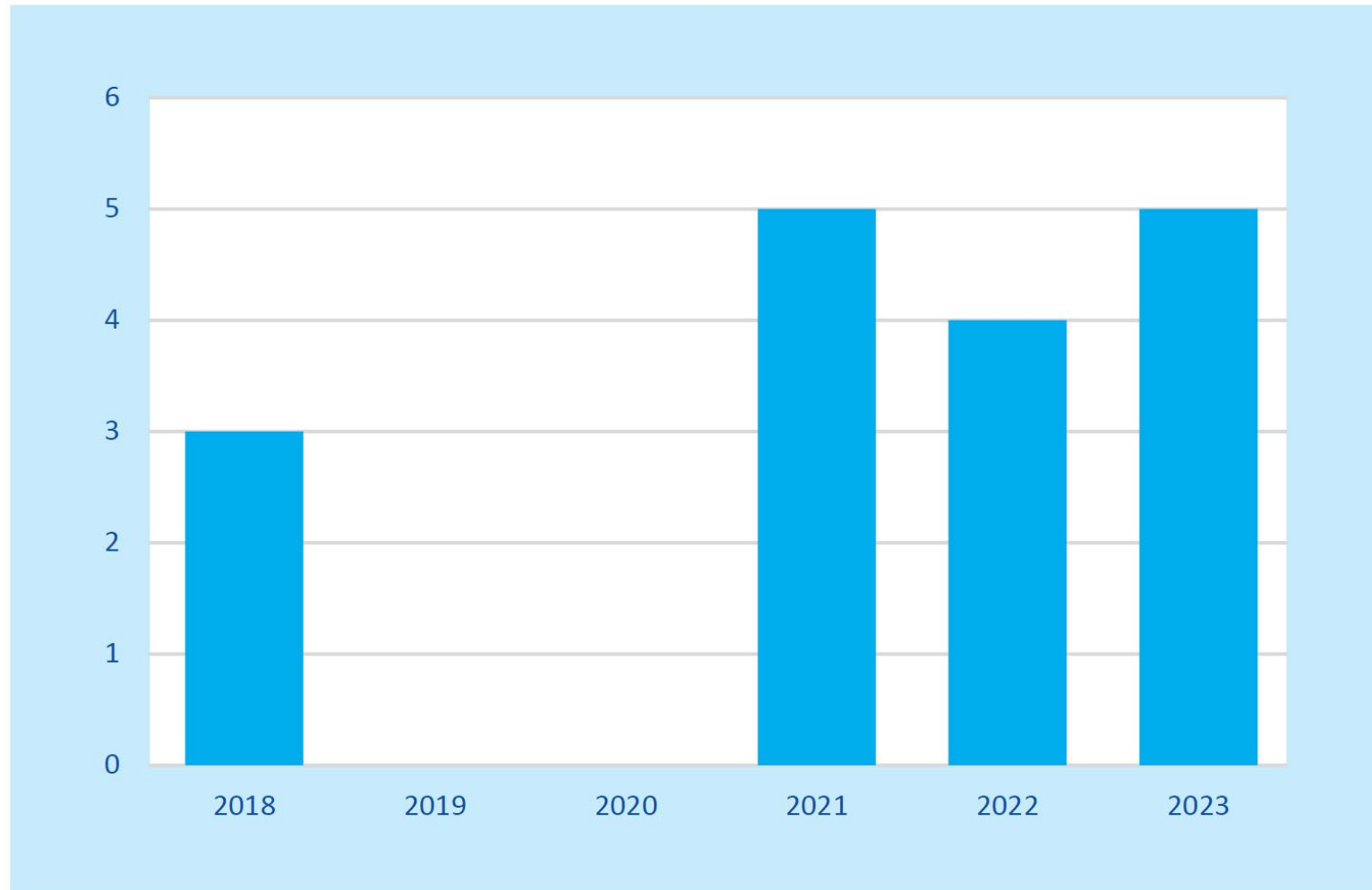
[Update MEB Science Policy 2020-2024](#)

Bachelor's and master's students per year



PhD defences per year

$\frac{c \ B \ G}{M \ E \ B}$



PhD defences in 2023



Remy Francisca
(Erasmus MC)



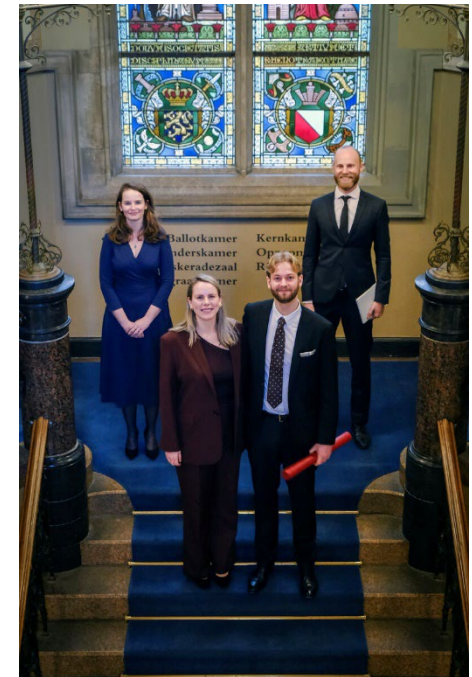
Pieter Glerum
(UM)



Désirée Veening-Griffioen (UU)

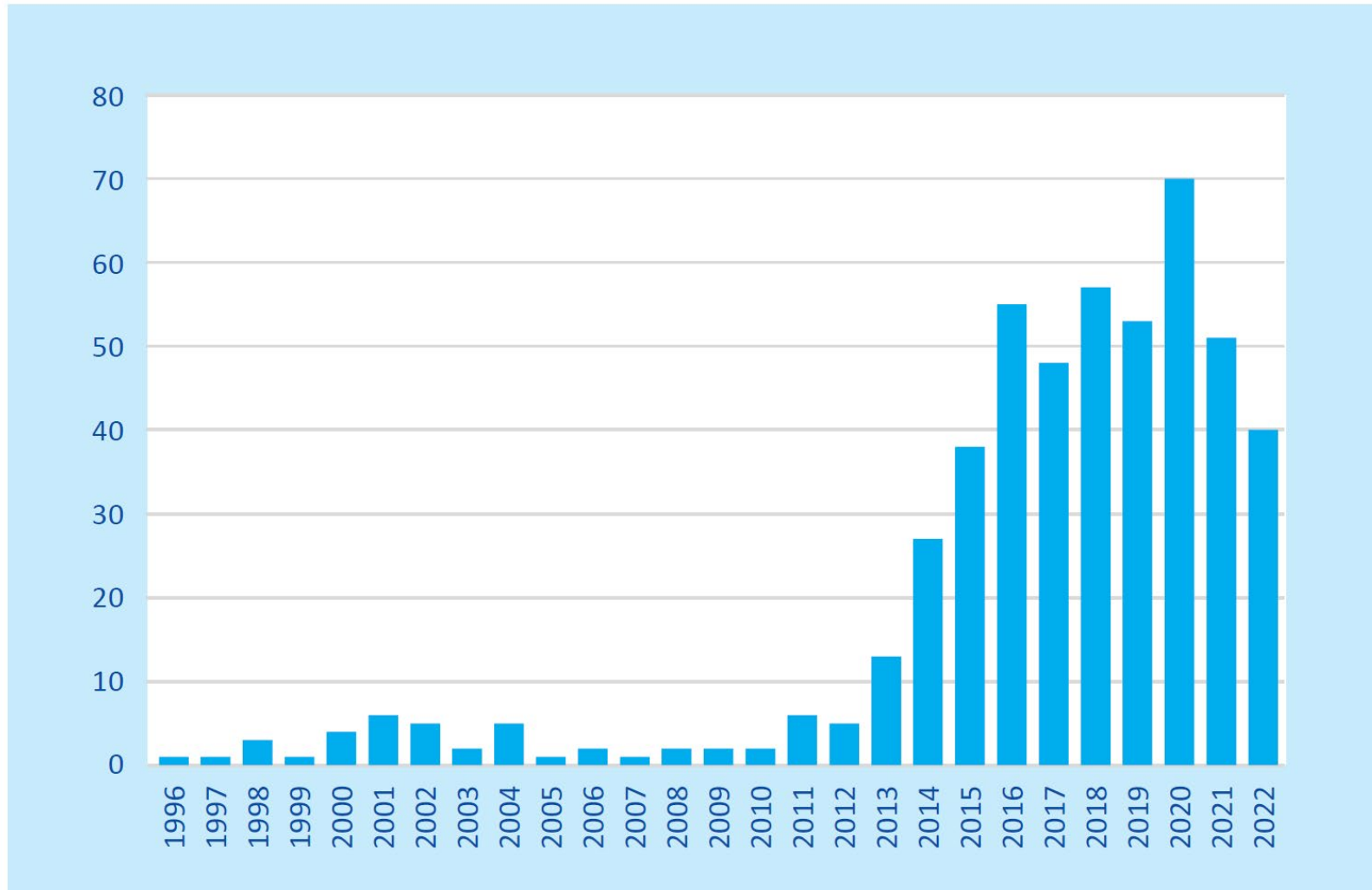


Nafise Ghalandari
(Erasmus MC)



Jorn Mulder (UU)

Publications per year with MEB affiliation



Eight themes

$\frac{C \ B \ G}{M \ E \ B}$





4.4 Personalised medicine and biomarkers

“Precision medicine” has become a topic of key interest in the scientific, regulatory and public domains. Due to rapid advances in science and specifically understanding disease pathophysiology, underlying biological pathways and specific molecular targets, a more targeted approach to diagnostics and treatment is possible. The concept of precision medicine aims to identify early-in-development investigational medicinal products with a promising treatment effect along with the patients who would respond to treatment.

In addition, precision medicine refers to subjects who may not respond to treatment but suffer from severe or rare adverse events. Finally, dose-finding can be facilitated by the current understanding of molecular targets and pharmacogenomics. Regulatory flexibility is required to stimulate the development and expedite the authorisation of promising medicinal products intended to treat life-threatening diseases.

Biomarkers are biological markers indicating that someone is sick, which can predict how serious an illness will be or show whether a treatment is working. One example of this is PDL-1 protein expression for immunotherapy in the context of oncology.



Alignment of “Precision Medicine” Drug Development Trajectories With Regulatory Decision-Making Needs

Lysbeth Bakker¹

Promotors: Prof Peter G. M. Mol^{1,2}, Prof Hiddo J. H. Lambers Heerspink¹

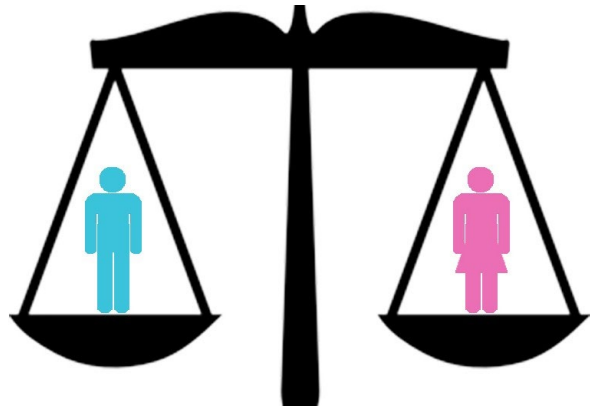
Co-promotor: Dr Viktoriia Y. Starokozhko^{1,2}

1. *Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacology, University Medical Centre Groningen, University of Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands*
2. *Medicines Evaluation Board (MEB), Utrecht, The Netherlands*

September 2019 - June 2023

Lysbeth Bakker studied at the University of Groningen. She started with a Bachelor of Life Science and Technology, finishing in the biomedical sciences and behaviour and neuroscience tracks. During her bachelor's, she minored in pharmacy, which caused her to continue in the direction of medicines. After obtaining her bachelor's degree, she started a Master in Medical Pharmaceutical Sciences with a Pharmacoepidemiology track. In the second year of her master's, she interned at the MEB, mostly in the office in Groningen, under the supervision of Peter Mol. In September 2019, Lysbeth started a PhD under Peter Mol's supervision in regulatory science. She worked closely with MEB and EMA colleagues on several of the projects.

What is the topic of your PhD?



Male / female differences



STARS

STRENGTHENING
REGULATORY
SCIENCE

STARS project



Sustainability



European Medicines Regulatory Database (EMRD)



European Medicines Regulatory Database



Dashboard Tour

To explore all the features of this dashboard, take a guided tour around the website by clicking the button. This tour will not take long and familiarize you with all the core functionalities that this dashboard has to offer. You can end the tour at any time by clicking 'end'. When you reach the end of the tour, the tour will automatically finish.

[</> Start Tour](#)

Tools

This dashboard provides tools for looking up, filtering, and visualizing data points regarding pharmaceutical policy and regulation. All functionality is split up into two pages: *Data* and *Visualize*.

Data

The data page is optimized to find data points quickly. Searching can be done based on keywords and letter combinations, but filters can also be applied to ensure that only data points that meet specific (parameter) requirements appear. The data points can be sorted by a parameter of your choice. Finally, a selection can be made manually from the remaining data points, which can be used for visualization or exported to a local file if desired.

Visualize

The data points selected on the data page can be displayed graphically on the visualization page. An unlimited amount of visualizations can be added, each with its own title. There are four types of charts to choose from: a bar chart, a line chart, a pie chart, and a histogram. For each of these chart types, it can be determined which variables are shown on the axes and whether labels or a legend should be shown. For these variables, you can choose which values/categories are shown or skipped in the diagram. For bar charts, you can also choose to display the chart horizontally and to stack the bars ("Stacked") so that fewer bars need to be shown. If the latter is chosen, you can also choose to make all bars the same length ("Fully stacked") so that the graph is expressed in relative quantities. For line charts and histograms, it is possible to zoom in on a subset of the diagram. For any diagram, all quantities



Overview of Regulatory Science Projects

Theme 3: Data-driven assessment

	2023				2024				2025				2026				2027				2028			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Efficacy Results Obtained from RCTs Translate to Effectiveness Data From Observational Studies (Stefan Verweij)																								
Clinical Pharmacology of Anticancer Agents and Regulatory Sciences (PhD student to be recruited)																								
European Medicines Regulatory Database																								
IMI RADAR-AD (Remote Assessment of Disease And Relapse – Alzheimer’s Disease)																								
Unicom project																								
More-EUROPA (More Effective and ethical Use of Registry data to support Patient-centered regulatory and health technology assessment decision-making)																								
National Growth Fund: ONCODE-PACT - Artificial Intelligence (PhD student to be recruited)																								
IMI Trials@home																								
IMI BigPicture (Artificial Intelligence for digital pathology)																								
IMI FACILITATE (FrAmework for Clinical trial data access, Annotation and Evaluation)																								
HEART4DATA																								
GetReal institute																								



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