

23-24 MARCH 2026 | ROTTERDAM

DIA LIFT START-UP ACCELERATOR PROGRAMME

Empowering early-stage health innovators for market success

DAY 1 | MONDAY, 23 MARCH 2026

12:00 – 12:30 PM

Light Lunch

- Informal networking and arrival of participants

12:30 – 12:45 PM

Welcome & Opening Words

Luiz Correa (DIA), Falk Ehmann (EMA)

- Introduction by DIA Team
- Framing the biotech & start-up initiative within DIA Europe 2026

12:45 – 2:15 PM

Investment & Alliances: Pathways to Market and Growth

*Jan-Philipp Beck (Vintura), Martin de Kort (EATRIS),
Marlous Kooijman (Oncode Accelerator), Mark Krul (Aglia Oncology Funds)*

- Funding fit: Public and non-VC options
- Biotech growth & access success stories
- Pharma & VC perspectives on scaling innovation
- Roundtable discussion on how to approach investments and funding

2:15 – 2:45 PM

Coffee Break

2:45 – 5:00 PM

Start-Up Accelerator – All You Need To Know Before You Fall into the Rabbit Hole

*Lynda Chin (Apricity Health), Falk Ehmann (EMA), Leonor Enes (EMA),
Martin de Kort (EATRIS), Marjon Pasmooij (MEB), Anja Schiel (NOMA)*

- 20 years' experience EMA and early regulatory dialogue: When and how to engage with EMA/NCAs
- Early dialogue devices and IVD-HTA
- Understanding patient and HTA involvement: Building credibility for early-stage innovation
- Access readiness: how to reach the finish line
- How biotech act will impact EUCTR – future implication
- Coffee top-up / short stretch
- Interactive Q&A + open mic – audience inputs with real-time polling on challenges

5:00 – 6:00 PM

Innovation Networking

- Informal exchange between investors, biotech, and DIA leadership

7:00 PM

Pitch Finalists Table at the DIA Inspire Awards

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DAY 2 | TUESDAY, 24 MARCH 2026

8:30 – 10:00 AM

Opening Session at DIA Europe 2026

- Keynote and Panel Discussion: A Vision for Europe - Europe as Global Leader of Healthcare and Life Sciences Innovation

10:00 – 10:15 AM

Coffee Break

Advisory Roundtables Round 1

- Improving clinical trial design to expedite approvals

Moderator: Edyta Maciolek (Moderna)

Lynda Chin (Apricity Health), Falk Ehmann (EMA), Michal Skronski (JPP Biologics)

- Diagnostics approvals through the lenses of IVDR

Moderator: Carlos Galamba (MDxCRO)

Fabienne Hermitte (Helio Dx)

10:15 – 11:30 AM

- Exploring the Chinese market – for start-ups

Moderator: Jessica Liu (Independent Advisor)

Kevin Lin (Xincere Med), Li Zili (DIA)

- Alternative funding – pitfalls and way forward

Moderator: Anja Schiel (NOMA)

Martin de Kort (EATRIS)

Advisory Roundtables Round 2

- Medtech approvals through the lenses of MDR

Moderator: Andrea Biasiucci (Confinis)

- Early market access strategies

Moderator: Audrey Ortiz (Ockham Consulting)

Anja Schiel (NOMA)

11:30 – 12:45 PM

- Exploring the US market – for start-ups

Moderator: Guest Speaker

- Pharma/combination products

Moderator: Kim Young (RAPS)

Joseph Larbi (Celegance)

12:45 – 1:30 PM

Light Lunch

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LIFT Start-Up – Pitch Competition

- Start-ups present to investors, pharma, and experts
- Evaluation and feedback from the panel

DIA LIFT Start-Up Pitch Competition Jurors:

1:30 – 4:20 PM

*Jan-Philipp Beck (Vintura), Ursula Busse (Advisor CMC Regulatory Strategy),
Lynda Chin (Apricity Health), Andreea-Loredana Cretu (UZH BioMed Entrepreneurship),
Falk Ehmann (EMA), Konrad Faulstich (Advisor to SLS Partners and Start-Up Companies),
Fabienne Hermitte (Helio Diagnostics), Marlous Kooijman (Oncode Accelerator),
Mark Krul (Aglia Oncology Funds), Raju Kucherlapati (Harvard Medical School),
Dick Sietses (Capricorn Partners), Anthony Vallance-Owen (We Venture)*

DIAMOND Session: Clinical Research Competitiveness

- Exploring Europe's competitiveness and innovation ecosystem

4:30 – 5:30 PM

Chairpersons:

Lada Leyens (Takeda), Marianne Lunzer (AGES), Ana Zanoletty Perez (EMA)

5:30 – 6:30 PM

DIA Welcome Reception & Networking

- Announcement of the Pitch Competition Winners