

Novel approaches to clinical trials: How smart design can improve yield

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Presentation overview

- Microdosing
- Model-based dosing
- Sequential trial design
- Umbrella/basket design
- European Pediatric Trial Network
 - Innovation in Scientific Advice



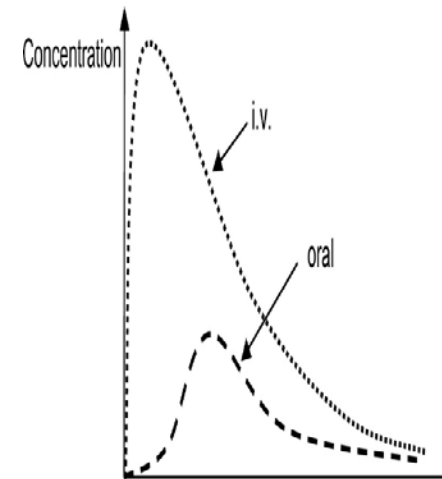
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Oral bioavailability– information gap

- $F = AUC_{oral}/AUC_{iv}$
- Limitation cross-over design:
 - Drug 2 times, days apart
 - Non-therapeutic drug dosing
- **Unethical in children?**



Microdosing - Definition

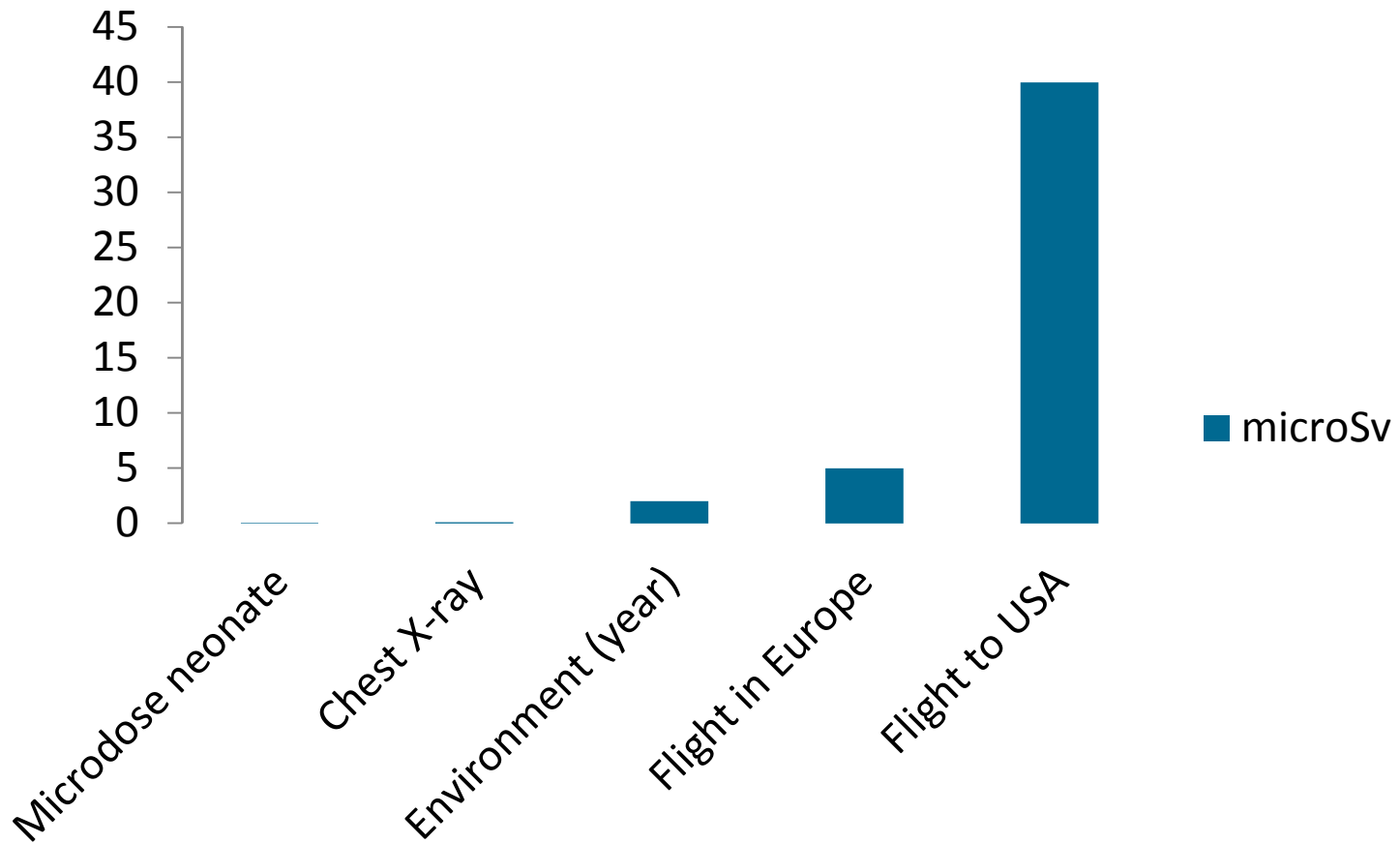
- Microdose
 - 1/100 of therapeutic dose
 - or max 100 μg
 - \pm Radioactive label: ^{14}C
- Drug levels with LC-MS or AMS
- FDA/EMA supported



Radioactivity in kids?



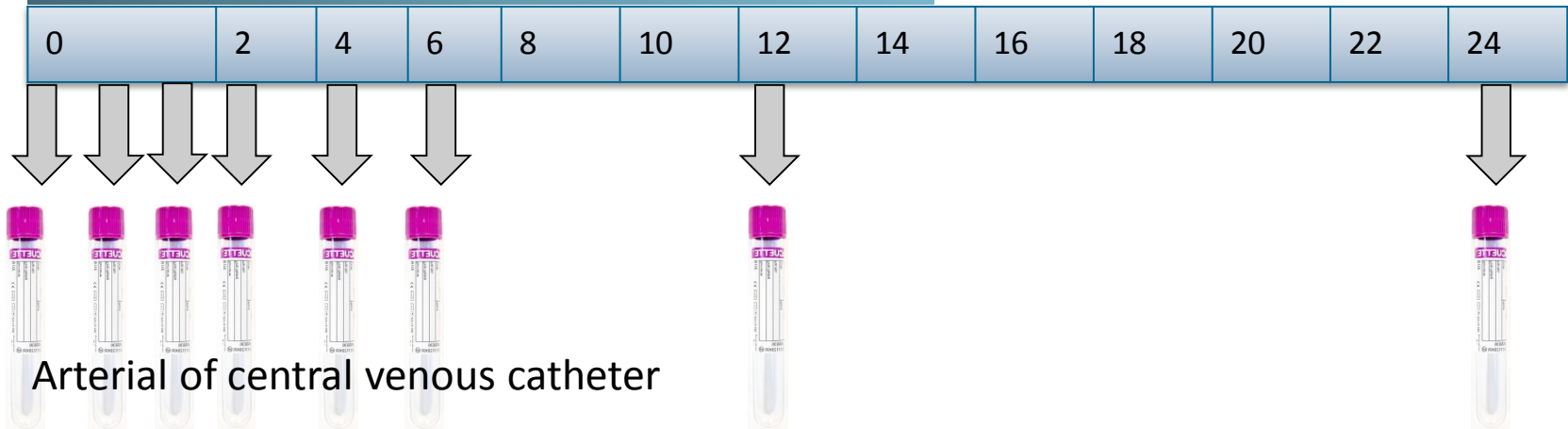
Radiation comparison



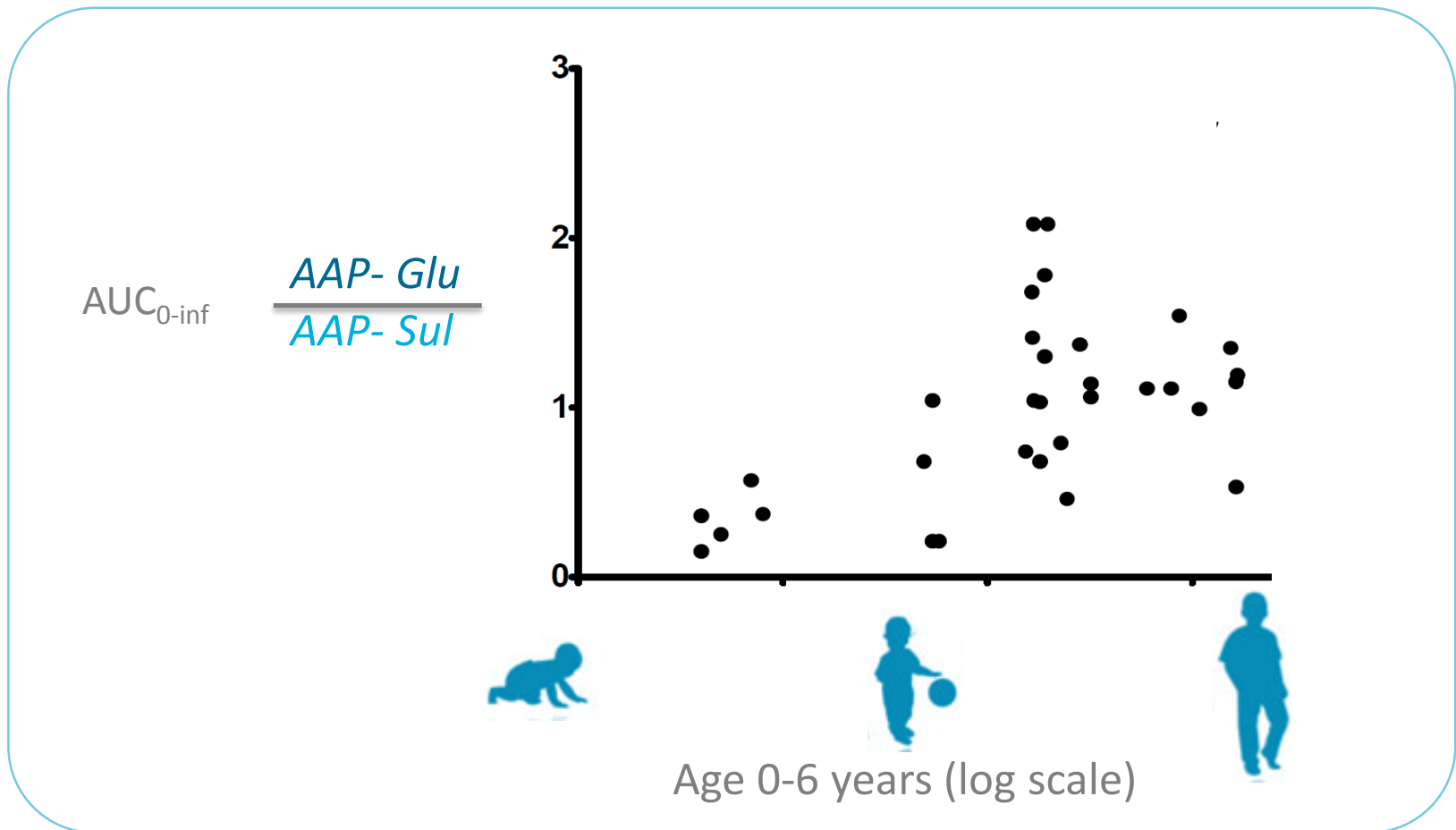
Paracetamol oral bioavailability study

Paracetamol IV, 15 mg/kg, q6h

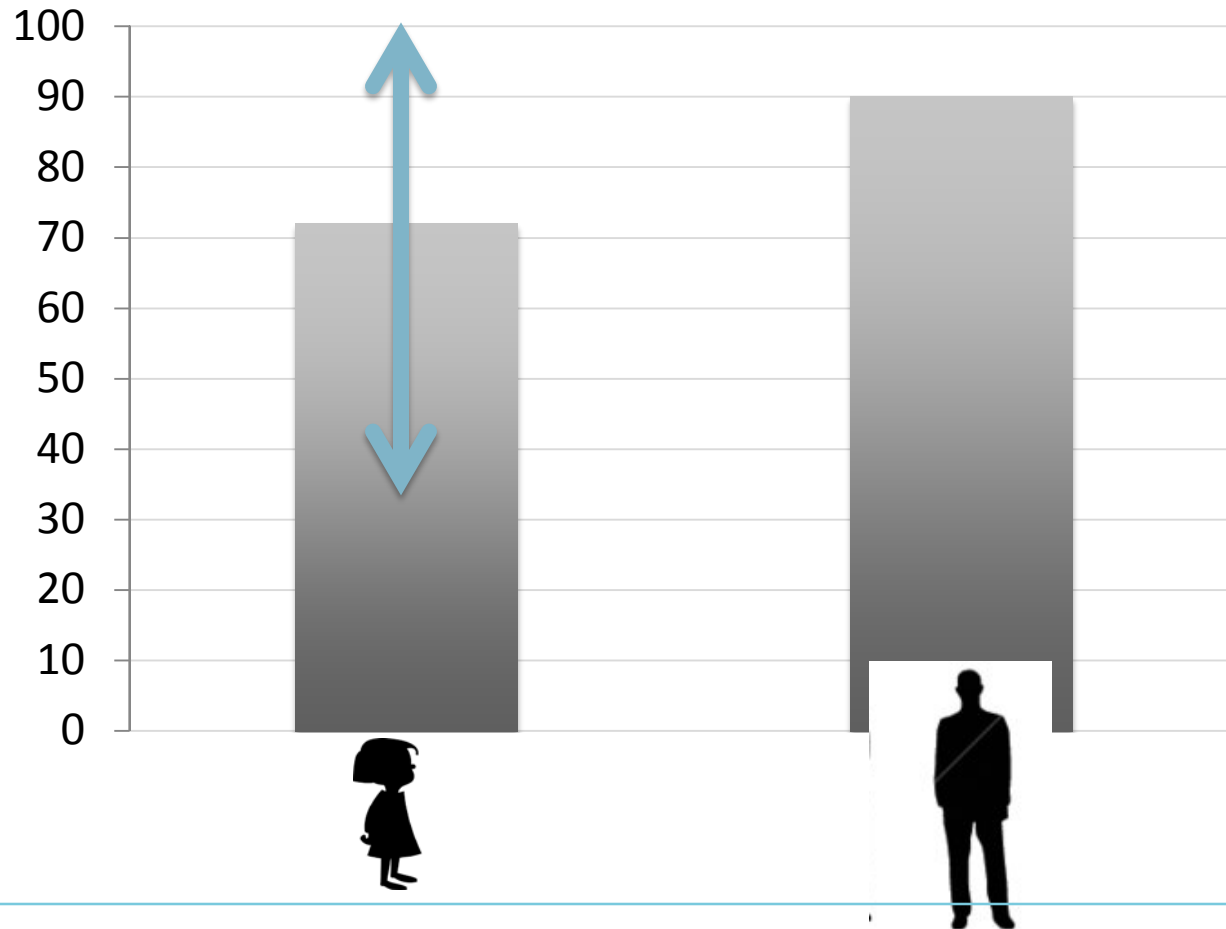
[¹⁴C] Paracetamol 2ng/kg enteral



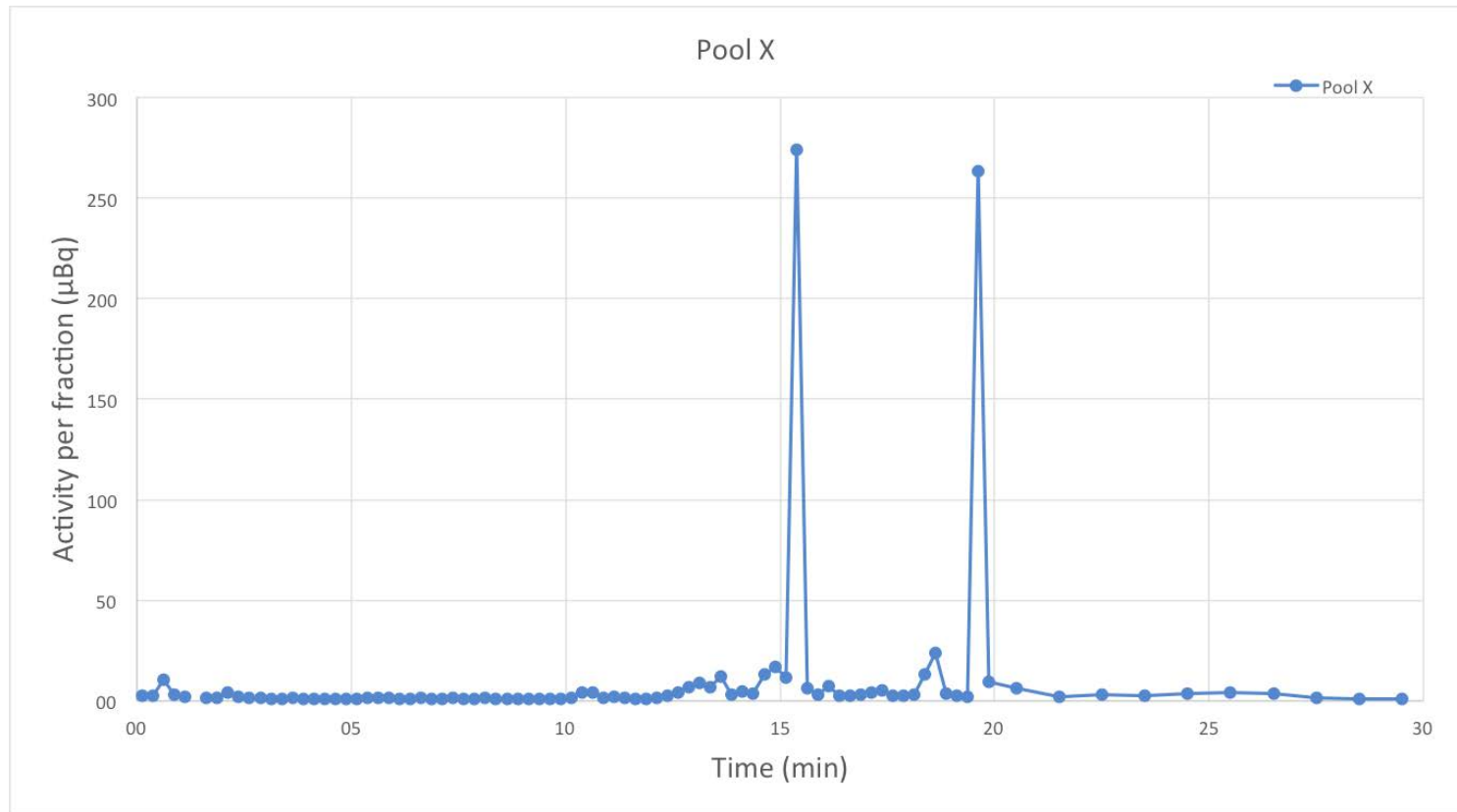
Age affects paracetamol metabolism



Paracetamol oral bioavailability



Metabolite in Safety Testing: Midazolam



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Paracetamol for major surgery

 CARING FOR THE
CRITICALLY ILL PATIENT

Effect of Intravenous Paracetamol on Postoperative Morphine Requirements in Neonates and Infants Undergoing Major Noncardiac Surgery A Randomized Controlled Trial

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Importance Continuous morphine infusion as standard postoperative analgesia in young infants is associated with unwanted adverse effects such as respiratory depression.

Objective To determine whether intravenous paracetamol (acetaminophen) significantly (>30%) reduce morphine requirements in neonates and infants for surgery.

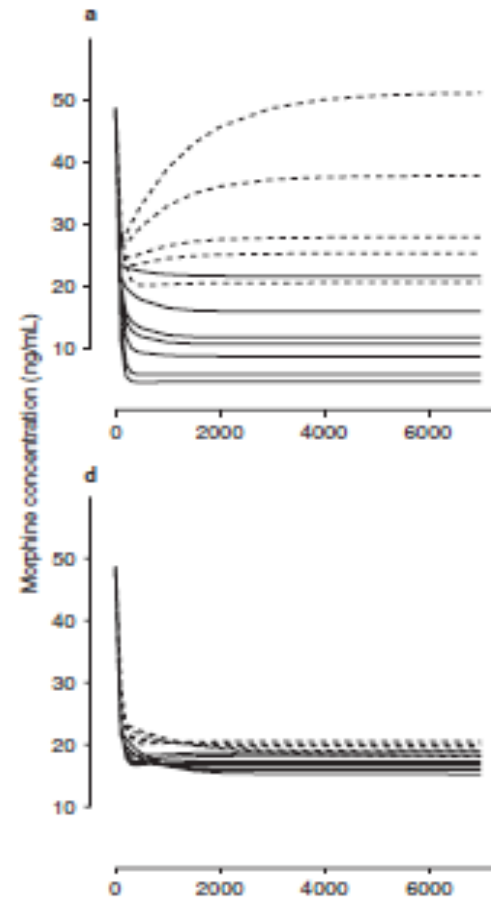
Design, Setting, and Patients Single-center, randomized, double-blind study conducted in a level 3 pediatric intensive care unit in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. Patients: 71 neonates or infants younger than 1 year undergoing major thoracic (noncardiac) abdominal surgery between March 2008 and July 2010, with follow-up of 48 hours.

Interventions All patients received a loading dose of morphine 30 minutes before the end of surgery, followed by continuous morphine or intermittent intravenous paracetamol up to 48 hours postsurgery. Infants in both study groups received morphine (boluses and/or continuous infusion) as rescue medication on the first

Morphine pharmacokinetics infants

Traditional dosing:
100 mcg/kg followed by
10mcg/kg/u

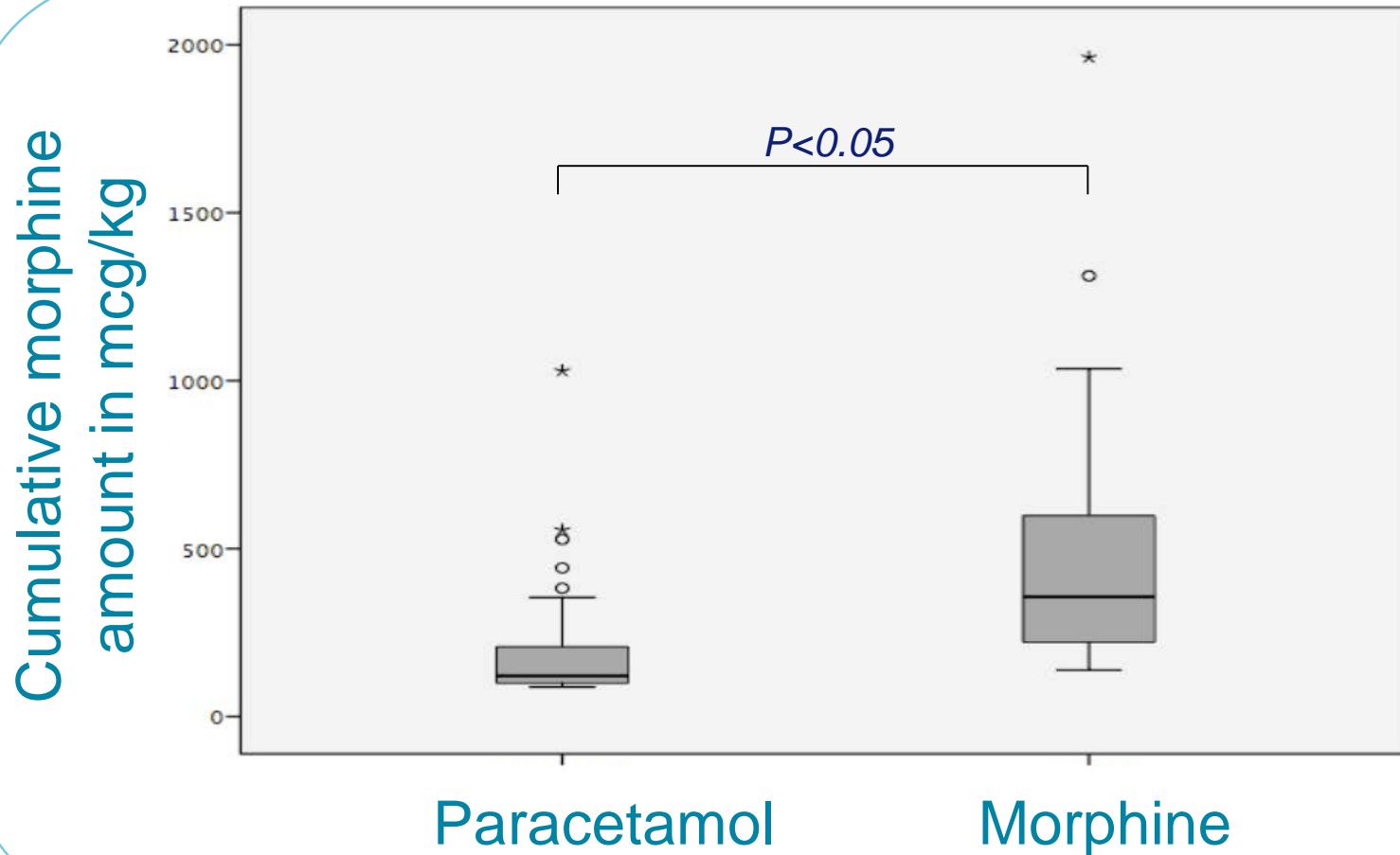
Model-based dosing
100 mcg/kg followed by :
>10 dagen: $10 \text{ mcg/kg}^{1.5}/\text{h}$
<10 dagen: $\frac{1}{2}(10\text{mcg/kg}^{1.5}/\text{h})$



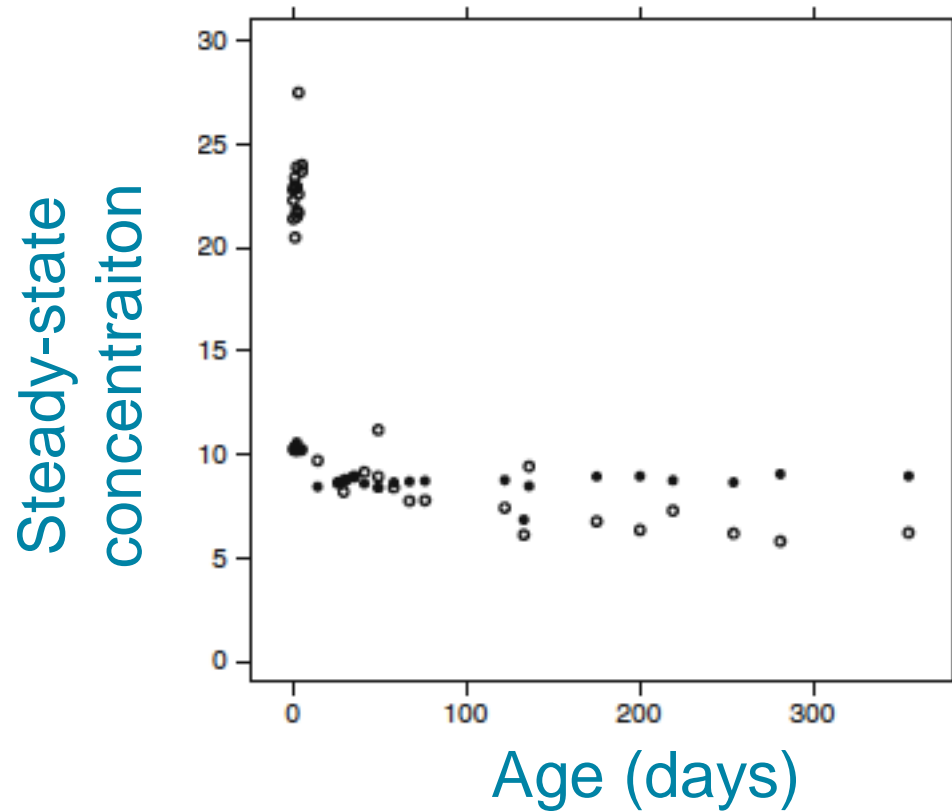
---- < 10 days
____ > 10 days

10 kg = 31 mcg/kg/u
5 kg = 22 mcg/kg/u
3 kg = 17 mcg/kg/u
3 kg < 10d = 8 mcg/kg/u

Paracetamol group 66% less morphine



Morphine concentrations versus age



Age-related PK changes and use modeling & simulation for pediatric dose selection



- 2 clinical trials gabapentin for neuropathic pain
- **Which dose to use?**
- PK data in children (Ouellet et al):
On a weight basis, **33% larger doses** would be required in **younger children (<5 years)** to achieve the same exposure as older children



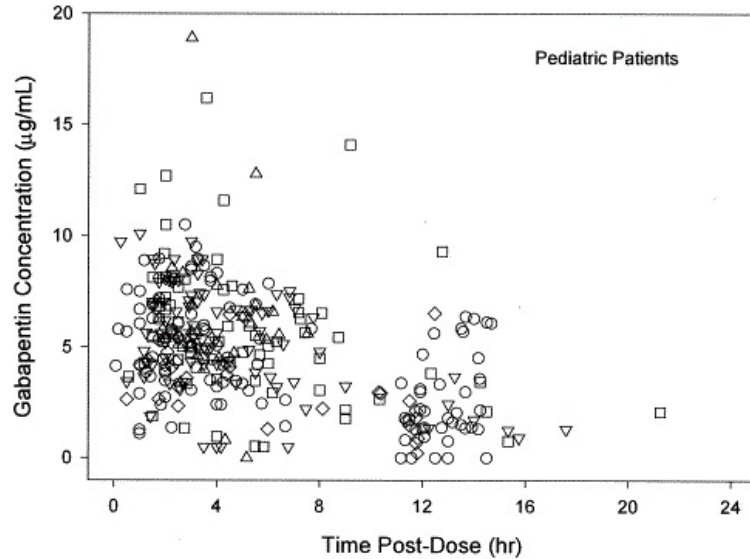
This project has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under Grant Agreement n° 602962



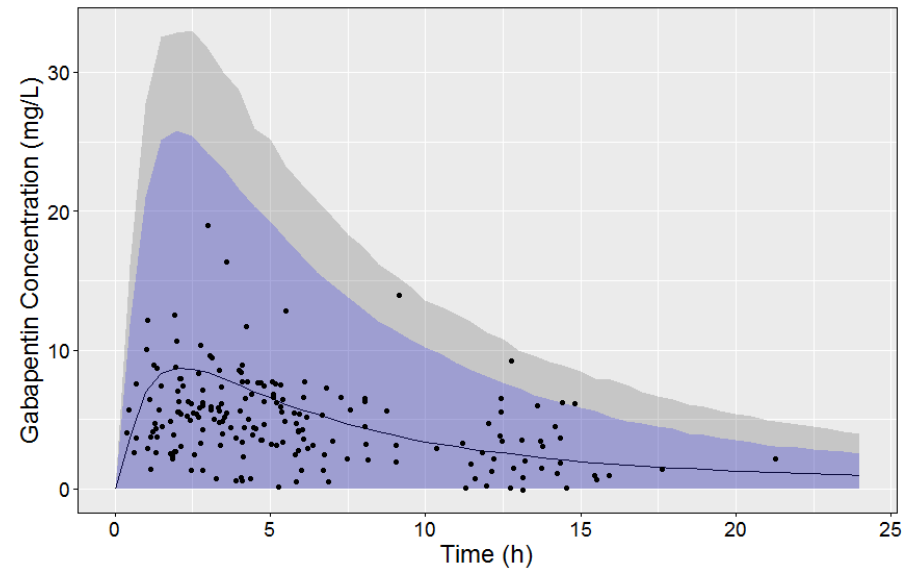
Gabapentin PK Modelling



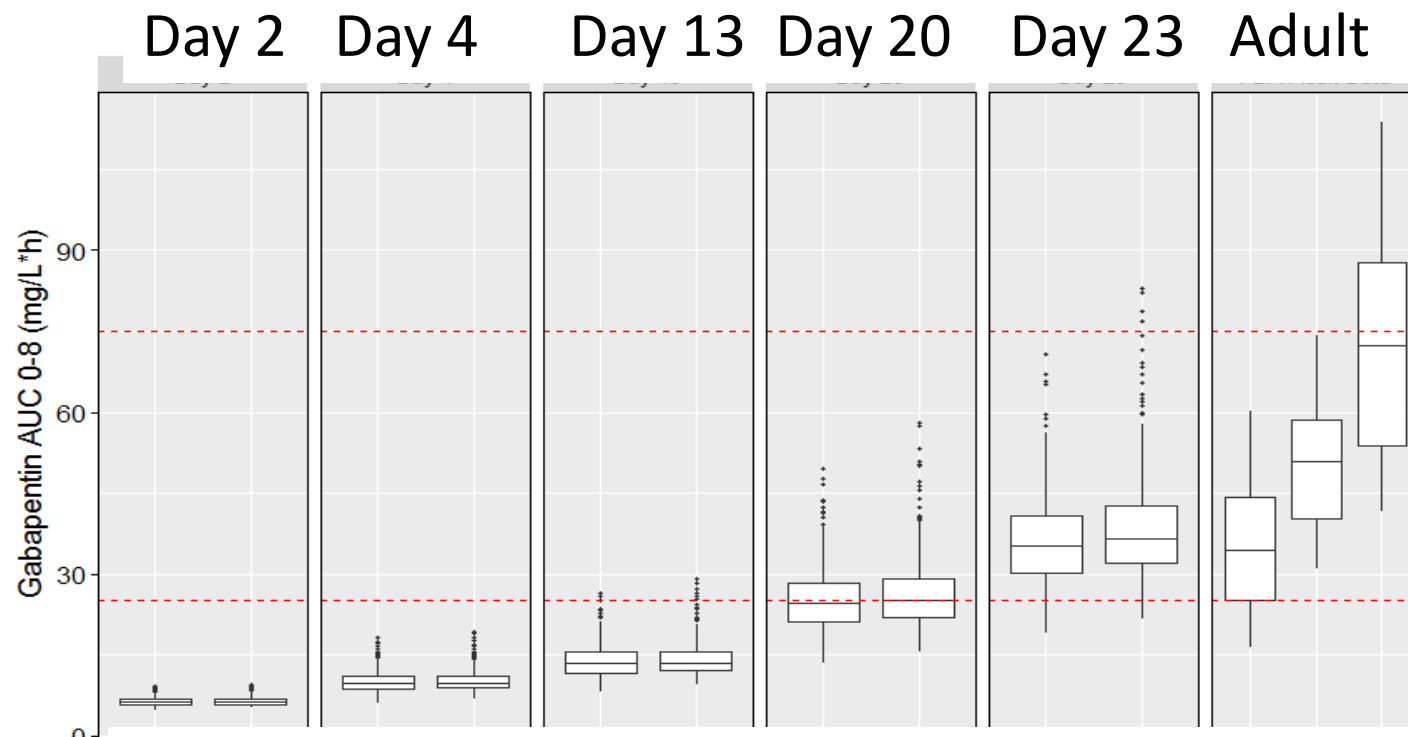
Observed PK data



Visual predictive check



Predicted gabapentin exposure



Weight groups: Left >15 kg, right 5-15 kg Adults
3 doses





Proposed gabapentin dosing

2 weight groups and titration

Day 1 starting dose in mg/kg/day;

Day 3 2 times the starting dose;

Day 5 3 times the starting dose;

Day 14 2 times the dose of Day 5;

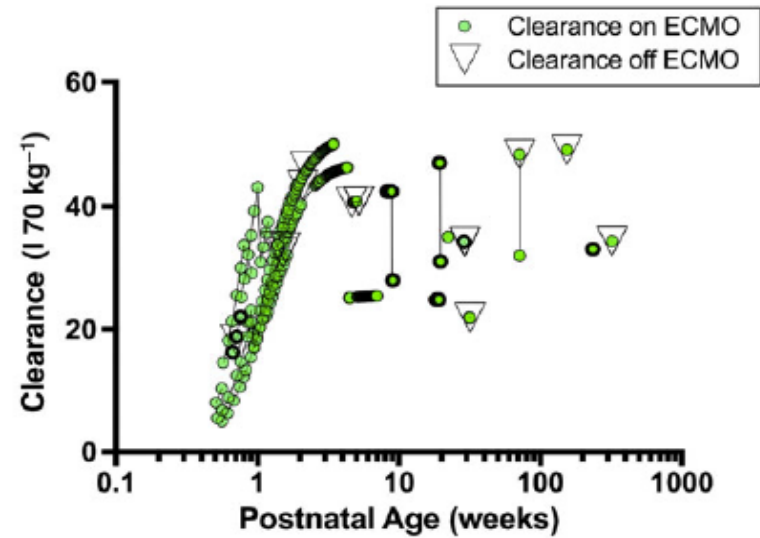
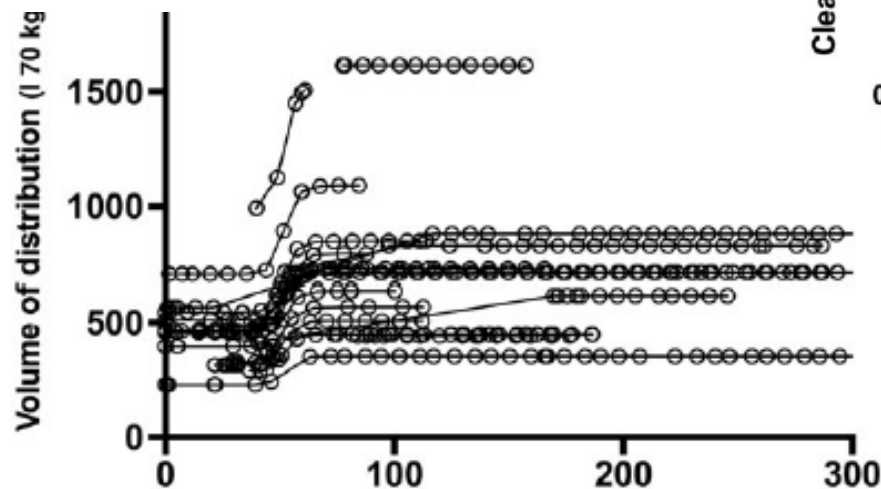
Day 21 3 times the dose of Day 5.

Doses in mg/kg/day

Weight group	Day 1	Day 3	Day 5	Day 14	Day 21
5-15 kg	7	14	21	42	63
>15 kg	5	10	15	30	45



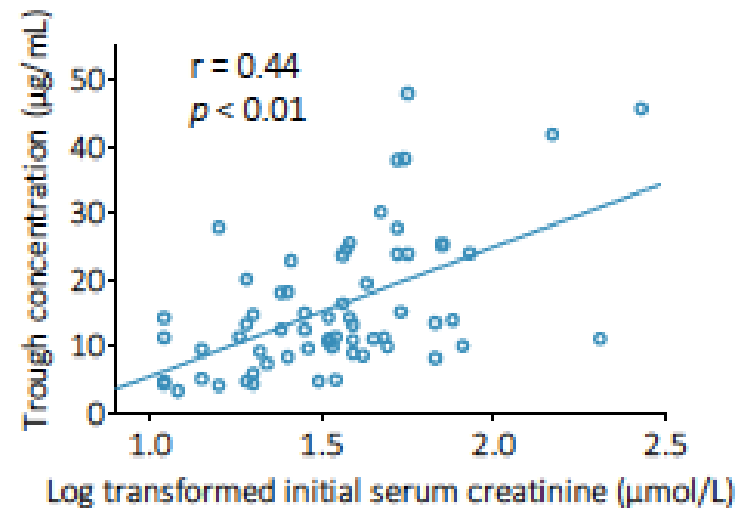
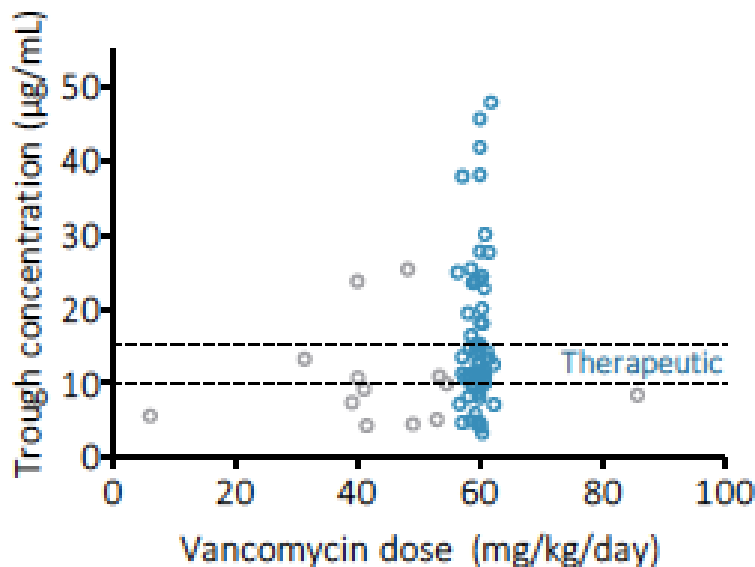
Population PK of clonidine in pediatric ECMO



Target attainment with model-based vancomycin dosing guidelines?

Aim 1. Assess incidence of target attainment with new dosing guideline

Aim 2. Identify risk factors for non-therapeutic concentrations



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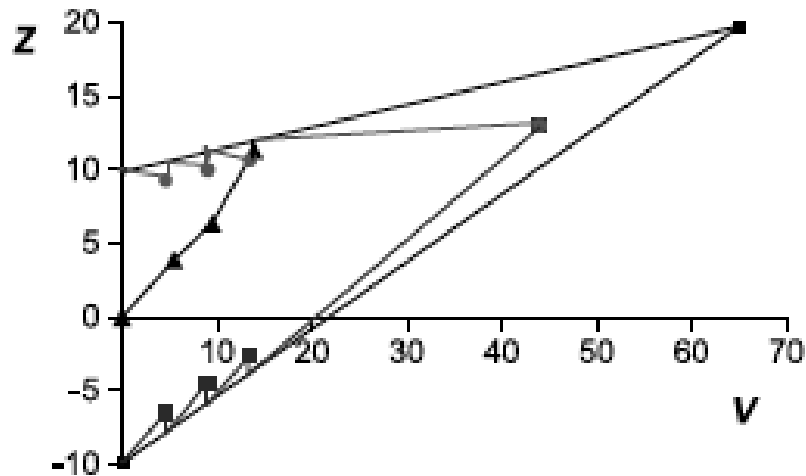
RCT with sequential analysis

Effect of early low-dose hydrocortisone on survival without bronchopulmonary dysplasia in extremely preterm infants (PREMILOC): a double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicentre, randomised trial

*Olivier Baud, Laure Maury, Florence Lebel, Duksha Ramful, Fatima El Mourssawi, Claire Nicaise, Véronique Zupari-Simunek, Anne Courso, Alain Beauchée, Pascal Bolot, Pierre Anghini, Damir Mohamed, Corinne Alberti, for the PREMILOC trial study group**

- Sequential analytical design, based on intention to treat
- Planned sample size $n = 786$, analyses at every 100 included patients
- Stopped prematurely for financial and technical support limitations
- Final sample size $N = 523$
- OR 1.48 (CI 1.02-2.16, $p = 0.04$) for BPD-free survival treatment vs control

Sequential analysis example



- ▲ Accrued difference in outcome between groups at each interim data inspection
- ◻ Upper boundary stopping rule (significant difference)
- ◼ Lower boundary stopping rule (no significant difference)

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MAMS: multi-arm, multi-stage design

Several agents or combinations of agents versus a single control group in a randomised controlled trial (RCT)

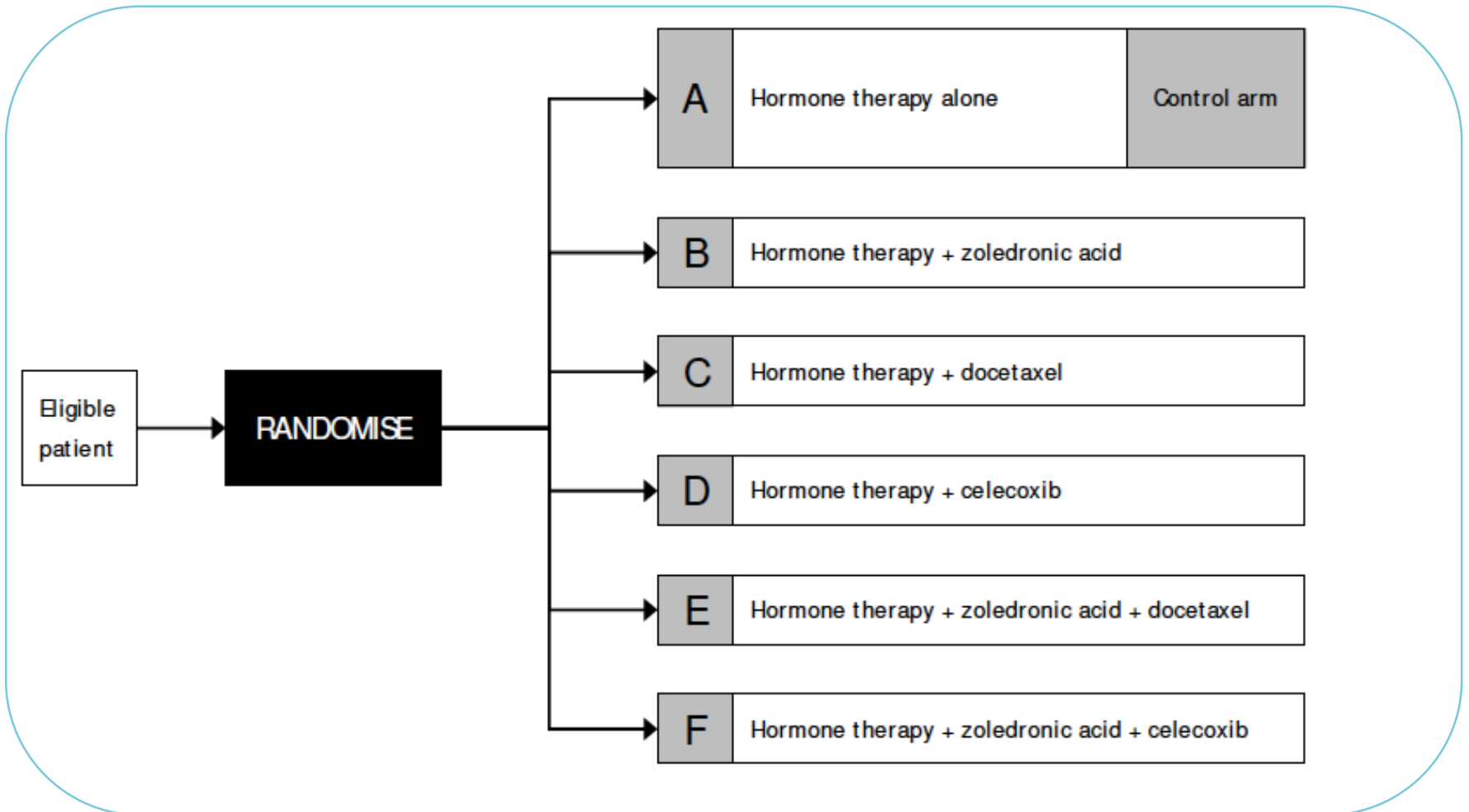
Arm with insufficient promise: discontinue

Promising arms: continue

Control arm: continue

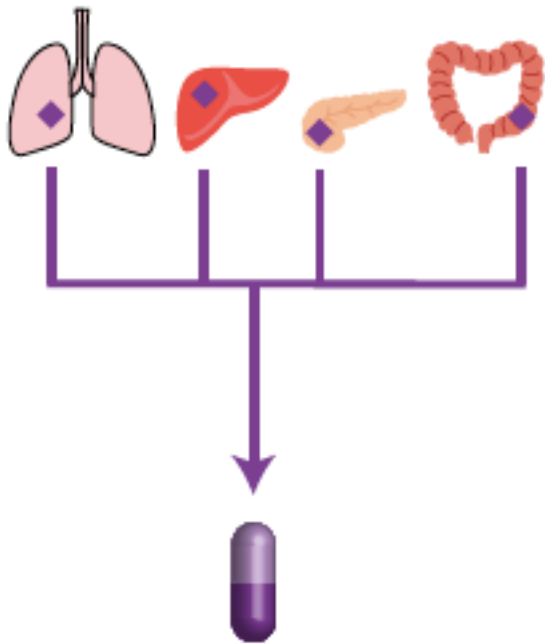
UNTIL: sufficient patients to assess impact related to primary outcome

Randomisation arms: example

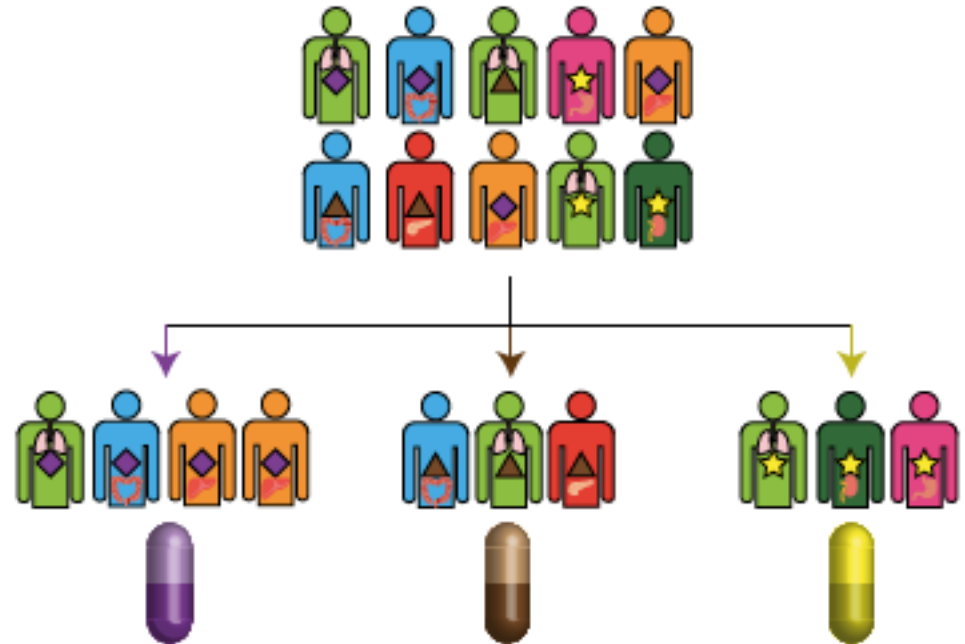


Genomic/biomarker trial design

a Basket Trial

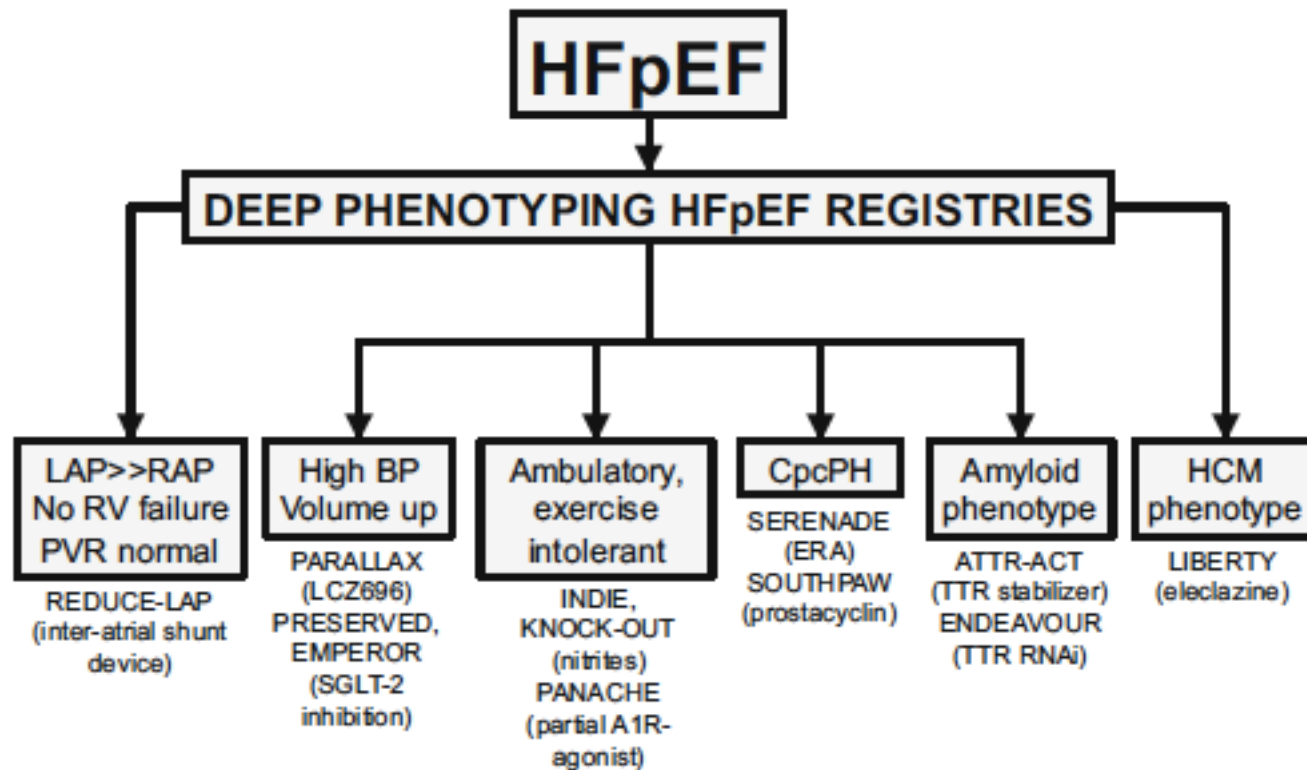


b Umbrella Trial

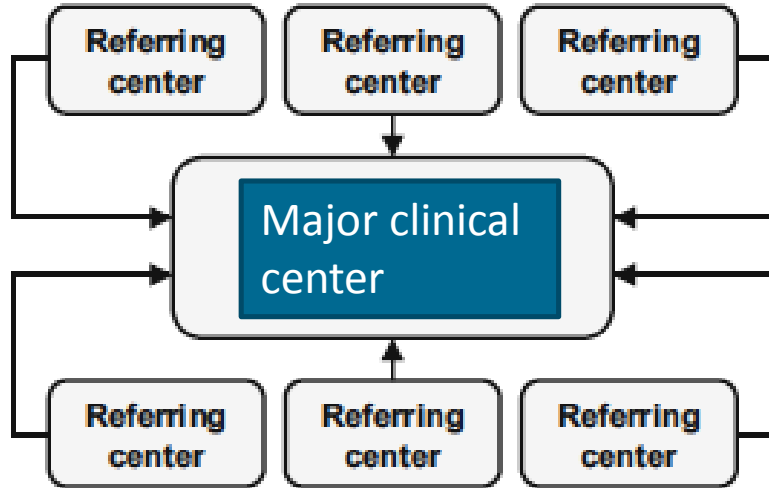


Example of umbrella trials

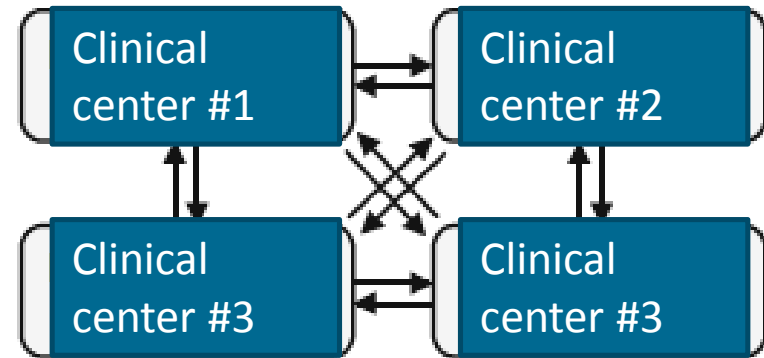
Heart Failure with preserved ejection fraction



Models for umbrella trials



Hub-and-spoke model



Distributive model

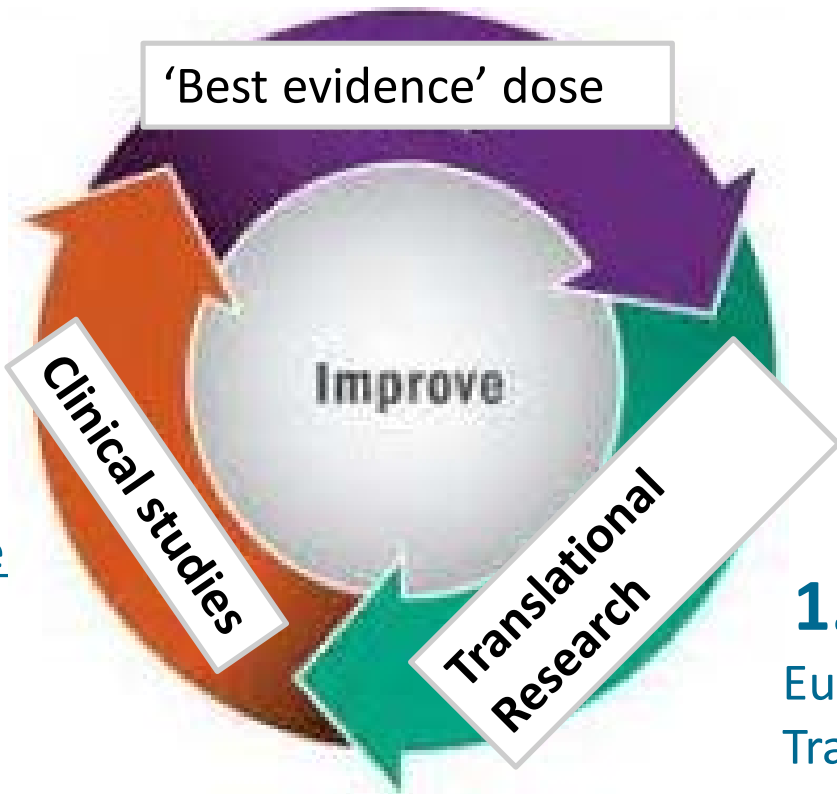
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Pediatric Drug Development: EU outlook

3. Pediatric label /more data for off-label use



2.

PEDCRIN

Paediatric Clinical
Research Infrastructure

IMI2

European Pediatric
Clinical Trial Network
PEDMED-NL

1. EPTRI

European Paediatric
Translational
Research Infrastructure

Innovative Medicines Initiative

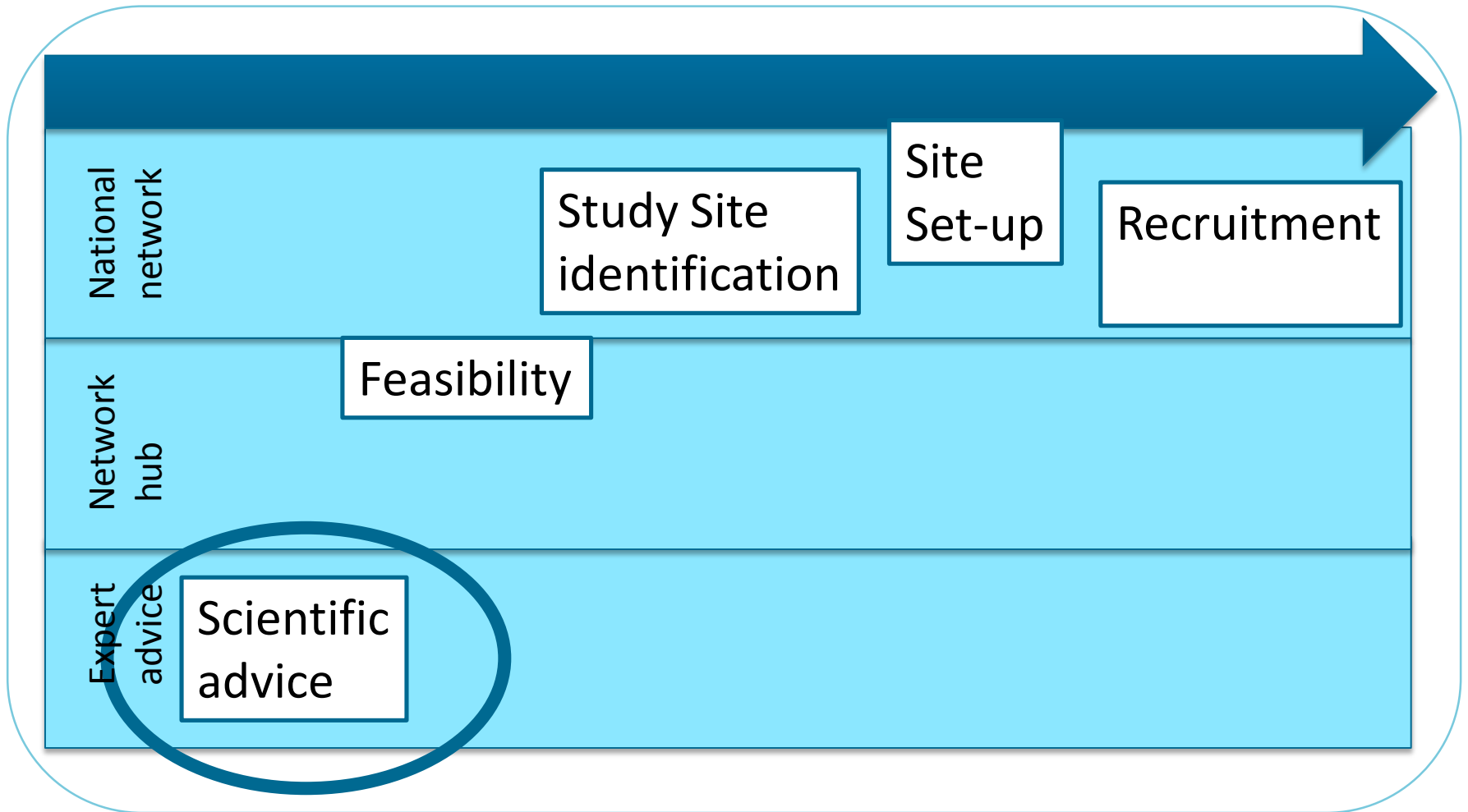
- IMI2 funding
 - 50% European Commission
 - 50% EFPIA European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industry Association
- Call 2017: European Pediatric Clinical Trial Network
- 130 million euros
- 6 years



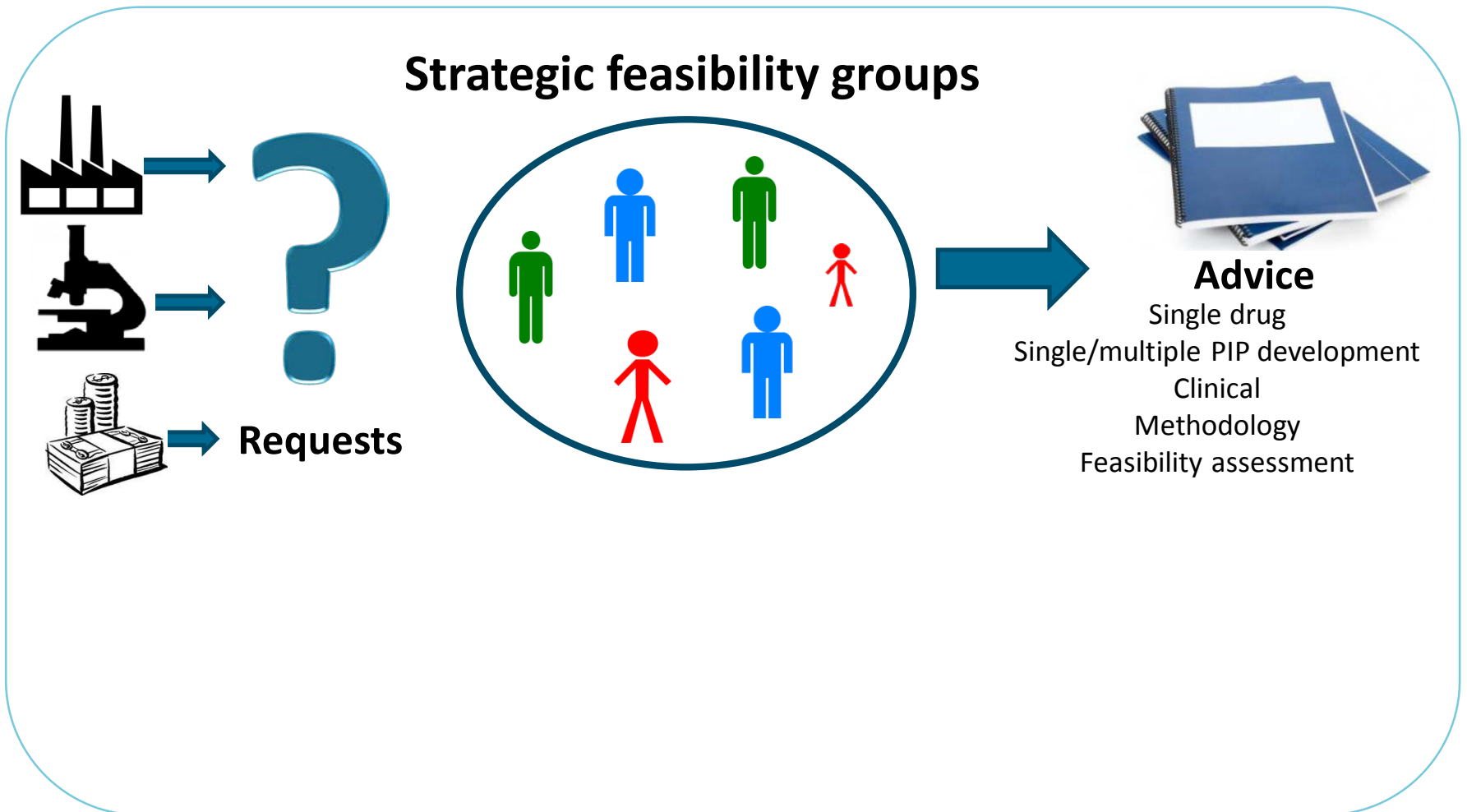
Network Mission

- Improve availability of information about medicines used by children
- Promote the delivery of high quality trials of medicines for children by supporting:
 - Trial implementation using resources shared between studies
 - **Trial design through a combination of information about natural history, feasibility and expert opinion**
 - Public- and industry-funded studies

Time-line of studies



Scientific innovative advice



Strategic feasibility groups



Study design

Statistics

E-Health

Modelling

....



Oncology

Neurology

Immunology

Intensive care

....



Patients

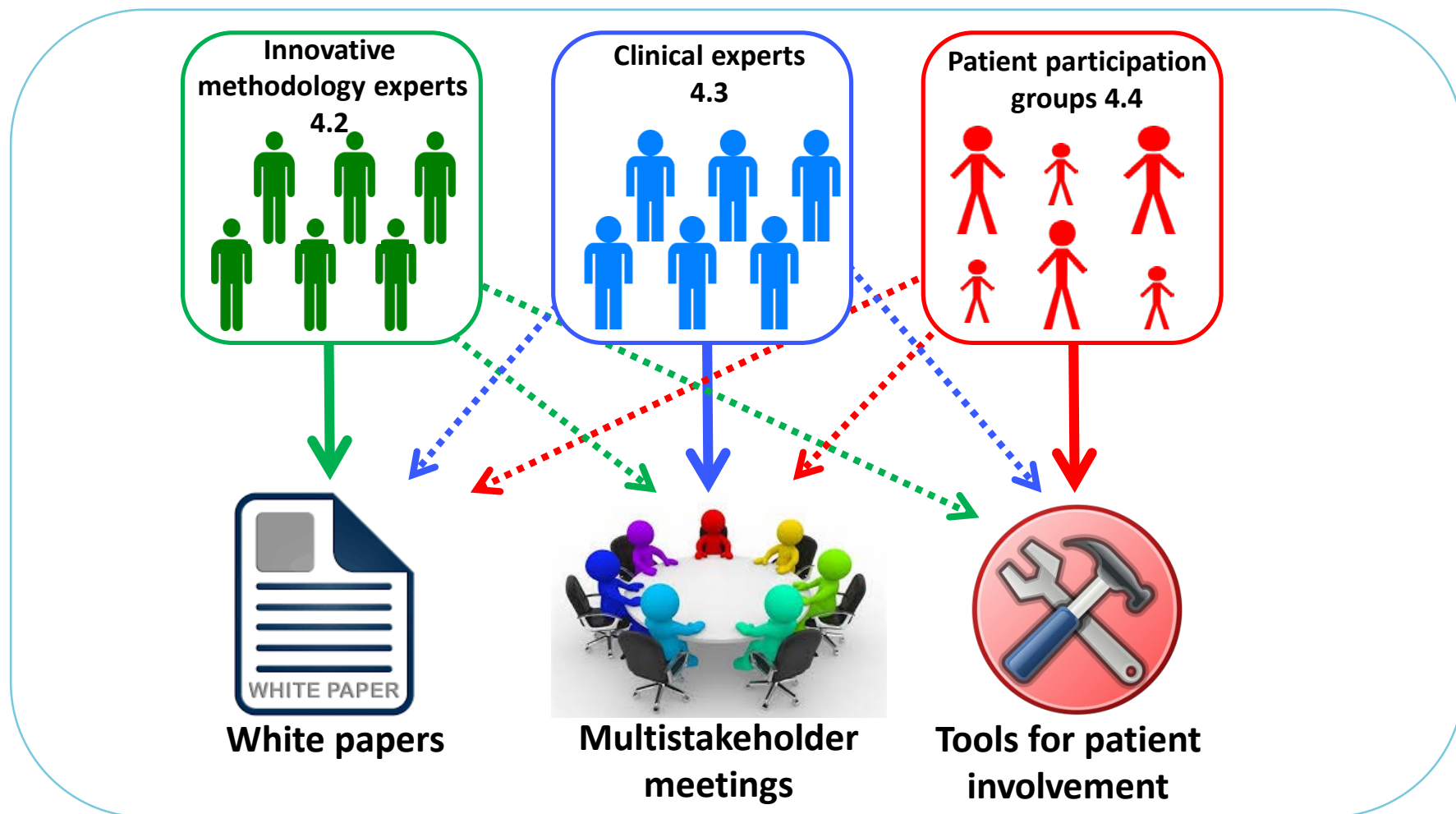
Parents

YPAG

CYP

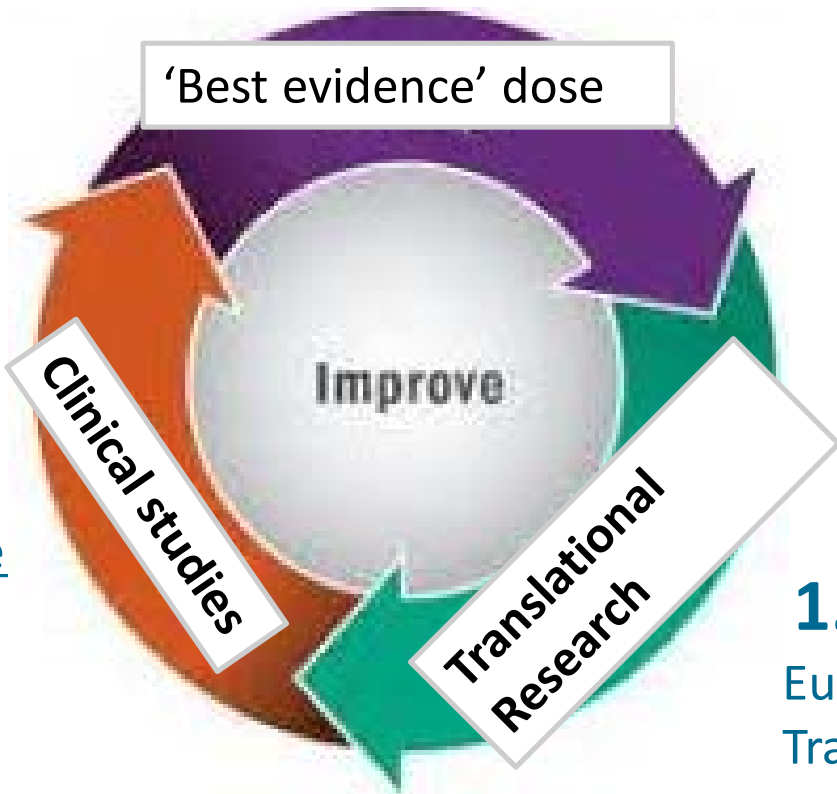
....

Added value for network goals



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Acknowledgements

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TNO

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H2020

Questions?



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NO CHILD DESERVES BAD MEDICINE

[DONEER NU](#)





Pediatrics: enough room for innovation

Phase 0/1

Microdosing

Phase 2

Model-based dosing
Bayesian dose-finding

Phase 3

MAMS multi-arm
multi-stage

Phase 4

Sequential analysis

Pragmatic trials
Real-world data