

CDDF Multi-Stakeholder Workshop
NEW MODALITIES IN ONCOLOGY
DRUG DEVELOPMENT

EXECUTIVE
SUMMARY

30 MARCH - 1 APRIL 2025
BRUSSELS (BE)



CDDF Multi-Stakeholder Workshop

New Modalities in Oncology Drug Development

31 March - 1 April 2025 - Brussels (BE)

The Cancer Drug Development Forum (CDDF) Multi-Stakeholder Workshops are neutral, non-competitive meetings that address topical issues and recent innovations in oncology drug development with the aim of improving cancer treatment. The workshops facilitate multi-stakeholder discussion and collaboration, bringing together leading voices from academia, the healthcare industry, regulatory authorities, and patient advocacy groups.

The workshop **“New Modalities in Oncology Drug Development”** was held on 31 March – 1 April 2025 in Brussels, Belgium. Over two days, experts from a range of disciplines came together to explore **emerging treatment modalities** from scientific, regulatory, and practical perspectives. Discussions highlighted radiopharmaceuticals for dual diagnostic and therapeutic use, personalized cancer vaccines, next-generation targeted conjugates, and innovative approaches to previously undruggable targets.

The ongoing evolution of cellular therapies, particularly CAR-T cells, was also a key topic. While already established in several cancers, these therapies continue to raise new questions and possibilities, prompting discussion on lessons learned and what lies ahead.

The interactive format of the workshop fostered rich dialogue and collaboration, resulting in a set of **take-home messages** that reflect the shared commitment of all stakeholders to advancing oncology drug development.



SESSION 1: WHAT IS NEW IN ONCOLOGY?



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Quality of life, patient benefit, unmet need, safety, and efficacy** are top priorities for evaluating new treatments.
- Antibody Drug Conjugates are evolving with diverse payloads; choosing the right one is key to balancing effectiveness and toxicity.
- **New T cell engagers aim to tackle antigen loss and heterogeneity** by targeting multiple antigens and reducing known toxicities.
- Targeted Protein Degradation and molecular glues offer ways to **treat hard-to-reach proteins** using the cell's own disposal systems.
- Combination therapies are being explored to move closer to **curing metastatic cancer**.
- Some new therapies, like Targeted Protein Degradation and molecular glues, can be taken orally or via long-acting forms, supporting **patient convenience and regulatory readiness**, with AI aiding their development.
- These approaches may also offer **lower costs, better scalability, outpatient suitability, and flexible dosing** for complex patient needs.





SESSION 1: WHAT IS NEW IN ONCOLOGY?



NEXT STEPS

- It will be important to develop these medicines with key challenges in mind, such as **dose optimization for multi-specific molecules, high development costs, the emergence of resistance, and heterogeneous metastases in patients.**
- **Continued research is essential** for identifying previously overlooked targets and mechanisms, as well as for anticipating and mitigating potential risks.

SESSION 2: RADIOPHARMACEUTICALS



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Continued **regulatory guideline advancements** are needed for the different **approval pathways** and **better patient access** to radiopharmaceuticals.
- **Advances in radiopharmaceuticals show great promise** especially in Neuroendocrine tumours and prostate tumors with **many key learnings** - opportunities in supply and patient access remain.
- Healthcare systems across EU need **greater harmonisation including facility and personnel training, and supply chain infrastructure enhancements**. Patients want to see an integrated, accessible service that brings all relative clinical teams together.
- **Sequencing and combination strategies** of radiopharmaceuticals remain an **area of great focus**, with drivers to potentially treat earlier, especially in prostate cancer.



NEXT STEPS

- A lot of work and advances with the development of radiopharmaceuticals have taken place, however much work is required and **continued discussions among regulators, HTAs, patients, academics, and industry is essential for sustained progress.**





SESSION 3: PERSONALISED VACCINES IN ONCOLOGY



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Cancer vaccines hold significant promise** as an emerging therapy in oncology, offering a **personalized approach to treatment**. However, key **uncertainties persist**, particularly in relation to target selection, identifying the optimal therapeutic window, and determining the most effective delivery strategies. These scientific and clinical questions will need **careful consideration as development progresses**.
- **Shared decision-making will be critical** in building trust with patients and ensuring uptake of cancer vaccines. **By involving patients** in the discussion around benefits, risks, and uncertainties, **healthcare providers can foster a more collaborative and transparent care process**.
- **Real-world implementation must be planned early**, especially from a Health Technology Assessment (HTA) perspective. The way treatments are delivered in clinical trials often differs significantly from routine practice. **Anticipating these differences and planning for them can help avoid barriers to access and integration into healthcare systems**.
- **Despite these challenges, regulatory progress is feasible**. With **proactive engagement of all stakeholders** - regulators, clinicians, researchers, and patients - **it will be possible** to navigate the regulatory landscape effectively and ensure these innovative therapies reach those who need them.

SESSION 4: CELLULAR THERAPIES



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- There is **broad and growing armament of exciting cellular therapies** proving to have transformational activity in treating cancer, with the hope of durable benefit.
- Encouragingly, **current research focuses** not just in new and improved therapies but also **on improving the tolerability and deliverability of these necessarily-intense treatments** and their long term follow-up.
- **Cellular therapies are complex and highly personalised**, and often historically in niche indications, which has impact on individual cost but also on delivery and access; **it is therefore important to plan for this upfront to build the delivery infrastructure and regulatory frameworks**, as has happened with existing CAR-T therapies.
- **Tailored regulatory support** is already quite advanced in terms of both trial infrastructure and subsequent licensing.
- We need to **ensure equitable access**, which will involve scalable distributed manufacture, expansion of expertise in both delivery and supportive care, multidisciplinary collaboration, and personalised risk-benefit decisions.





SESSION 4: CELLULAR THERAPIES

NEXT STEPS

- Ongoing **early engagement of all stakeholders** to ensure the huge promise of this field can continue to translate into **manageable introduction of feasible, accessible and personalised treatment** to all; aiming to optimise key considerations around toxicities, cost and deliverability in balance with the increasingly evident **benefit of this treatment modality**.

Meeting recordings and presentation slides are available to CDDF Members, regulators, patients and academics via the CDDF intranet platform (<https://cddf.org/member-access/>)



Collaboration and open dialogue
among **all stakeholders** is **key** to
accelerating and improving
oncology drug development for
patients



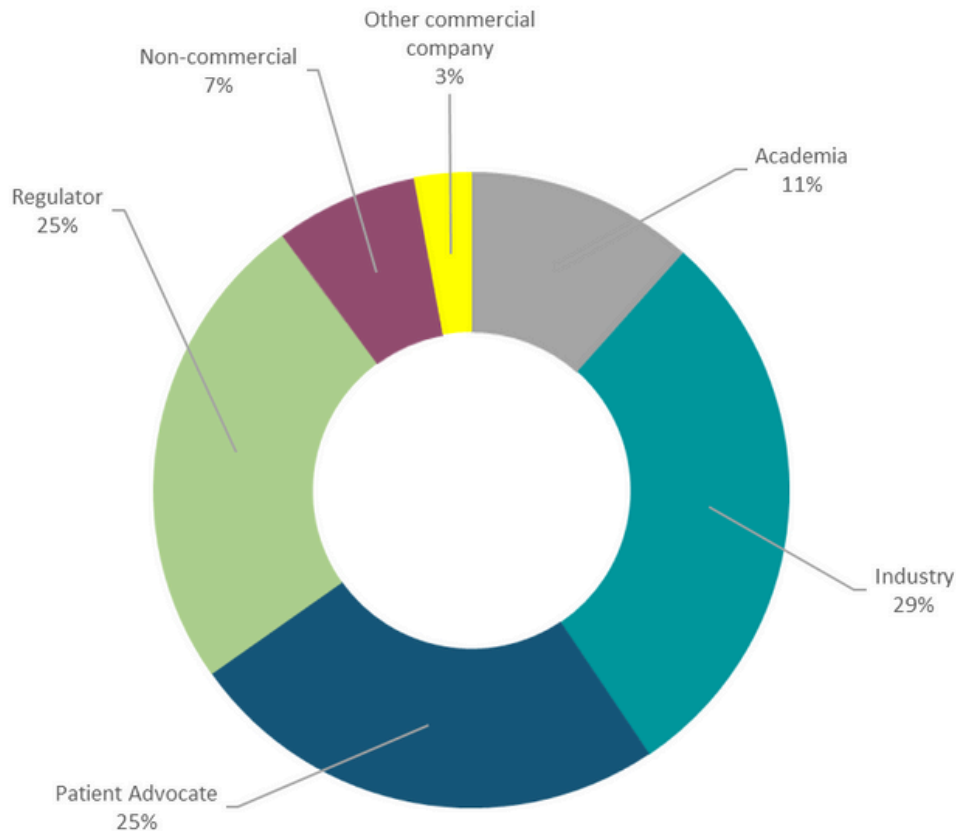


AUDIENCE AT THE CDDF WORKSHOP

The CDDF's meetings present a **wide range of perspectives** from **various stakeholders** who are involved in the development of oncology drugs. Our **multi-stakeholder, collaborative approach** facilitates a productive dialogue in a neutral, non-competitive space in order to **accelerate effective cancer drug development**.



Onsite Participants & Speakers



The graph illustrates the distribution of online and onsite speakers/chairpersons/panelists alongside onsite attendees.

68

**IN-PERSON
ATTENDEES**

148

**ONLINE
ATTENDEES**

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS



MULTI-STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

Accelerating drug development to deliver better patient care

17 - 18 November 2025
Brussels, BE (hybrid)



[Programme](#)

[Registration](#)

Focus of Discussion

- 1 Keynote lectures and fireside chat
- 2 Patient needs & perspectives
- 3 Use of pragmatic elements during the drug development lifecycle
- 4 Accelerating clinical trials - the digital perspective
- 5 Q&A and panel discussions

Joint Workshop



AAADV-ASCO-CDDF Workshop Global Oncology Drug Development

15-16 May 2025, Washington D.C. (US)

[AAADV website](#)

CDDF LIVE WEBINARS




CDDF
Cancer Drug Development Forum

LIVE WEBINAR SERIES:
Bayesian Framework

**Bayesian Approaches in
Oncology Drug Development:**
Introduction and Motivations

Purvi Prajapati (Eli Lilly)
Natasha Muhlemann (Cytel)

14 May 2025
17:00-18:00 CEST, Online

[Webinar Outline](#)

[Registration](#)

Upcoming webinars

- 1 **Protecting Pregnant Women Through Drug Development in Cancer**
- 2 **Webinar series: AI and Big Data AI in drug development:**
 1. Transparency and risk assessment
 2. Modern imaging tools for response assessment
 3. AI-driven patient profiling for personalized treatment recommendations
 4. Use of AI in clinical trials
- 3 **Webinar series on ACT EU:**
 1. Overview of ACT EU
 2. Patients – CTIS

**CDDF BREAKS DOWN SILOS
IN THE ONCOLOGY COMMUNITY AND
FACILIATES OPEN, MEANINGFUL
DIALOGUE AMONG ALL
STAKEHOLDERS**



**We thank all our program committee
members, speakers, panelists,
Industry members, and participants
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engagement.**

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Cancer Drug Development Forum (CDDF)

Registered office: c/o BLSI, Clos Chapelle-aux-Champs 30, 1200 Woluwe Saint Lambert, Belgium
Register of legal entities: the French Speaking Enterprise Court in Brussels
Enterprise number: 738.523.752

 info@cddf.org

 www.cddf.org