



Annual
Conference
2026

Cancer Drug Development Forum

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

*Cancer Clinical Research in a
Changing Global Environment*

9 - 11 February 2026

Ghent, BE

Hybrid Conference



www.cddf.org

EVENT OUTLINE

The Cancer Drug Development Forum (CDDF) Annual Conference is a leading event bringing together key stakeholders in oncology drug development, including academic researchers, industry representatives, regulatory authorities, health technology assessment agencies and patient advocates. Held from 9 to 11 February 2026 in a hybrid format, the conference will facilitate high-level discussion and collaboration across sectors.

This year's programme will examine the global landscape of cancer drug development, with a focus on regional regulatory perspectives, trial representativeness and diversity, patient-reported outcomes, and the use of big data. The meeting aims to foster shared understanding and drive innovation in research and treatment delivery.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- **Session 1:** Provide an overview of regulatory approaches across global regions and discuss their implications for designing trials intended for international registration.
- **Session 2:** Examine the concept of representativeness in clinical trials, highlighting definitions, practical applications and current challenges.
- **Session 3:** Explore patient-relevant endpoints from patient, industry and regulatory viewpoints, emphasising their value and integration into clinical development.
- **Session 4:** Discuss the role of Big Data and federated datasets in supporting global clinical research and trial optimisation.
- **Session 5:** Present the latest findings and outputs from CDDF's Diversity Initiative.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

- Committee chair: Ruth Plummer (CDDF, UK)
- Co-chair: Mark Lawler (CDDF, UK)
- Kim Lyerly (AAADV, US)
- Nina Heiss (Merck KgAa, DE)
- Blanca García-Ochoa (MSD, ES)
- Gilliosa Spurrier-Bernard (MPNE, FR)

TARGET AUDIENCE

The target is a multidisciplinary audience of academia representatives, EU and US regulatory bodies (EMA, FDA, National Agencies), pharmaceutical Industry, HTAs and patient advocates.

CONFERENCE VENUE

Ghent Marriott Hotel (Drabstraat 37/9000, 9000 Gent)

HYBRID CONFERENCE

The conference will be held in Ghent. However, participation online via the Brella event platform will also be possible. Only approved participants will receive the link and log-in details to access the virtual platform.

CONTACT

Cancer Drug Development Forum (CDDF)

Email: giorgia@cddf.org, info@cddf.org

Website: www.cddf.org

Address: c/o BLSI Clos Chapelle-aux-Champs 30, 1200 Brussels, Belgium

PROGRAM

Day 1 : Monday, 9 February 2026

SESSION 1: WHAT'S HOT IN GLOBAL CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT?

Session Chairs: Mark Lawler (CDDF, UK); Gilliosa Spurrier-Bernard (MPNE, FR)

12:00 - 13:00	Lunch
13:00 - 13:05	Welcome note Ruth Plummer (CDDF, UK)
13:05 - 13:25	International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities (ICMRA) perspective Emer Cooke (EMA, NL)
13:25 - 13:45	FDA perspective Nicole Gormley (FDA, US)
13:45 - 14:05	Q&A
14:05 - 14:45	Fireside chat moderated by Mark Lawler Guest panelist: Emer Cooke (EMA, NL)
14:45 - 15:30	Coffee Break

SESSION 2: CDDF/AAADV JOINT SESSION ON REPRESENTATIVENESS IN GLOBAL CLINICAL TRIALS

Session Chairs: Kim Lyerly (AAADV, US); Ruth Plummer (CDDF, UK)

15:30 - 15:35	Session opening
15:35 - 15:55	Patients' perspective Marianna Vitaloni (Digestive Cancer Europe, ES)

15:55 - 16:15	Designing Clinical Research that Addresses Patients' Needs - Regulatory Perspective Lola Fashoyin-Aje (Independent Consultant, US)
16:15 - 16:35	Statistician perspective Murielle Mauer (EORTC, BE)
16:35 - 17:30	Panel Discussion Guest panelist: - Kiran Patel (Johnson & Johnson, US) - Adrelia Allen (MSD, US)
18:00 - 19:00	CDDF Leadership and Industry Members meeting (internal meeting)
19:00 - 22:00	Offsite dinner (Pakhuis)

Day 2 : Tuesday, 10 February 2026

SESSION 3: PATIENT RELEVANT ENDPOINTS

Session Chairs: Nina Heiss (Merck KGaA, DE); Jan Geissler (Patvocates, DE)

10:15-10:20	Session opening
10:20 - 10:38	Setting the scene: use of PROs in oncology trials Christina Yap (The Institute of Cancer Research, UK)
10:38 - 10:56	Patient Experience Data in development programs and regulatory decision-making Claire Espinasse (EMA, NL)
10:56 - 11:04	HTA perspective: PROs in joint clinical assessment Lisa Vervueren (INAMI, BE)
11:04 - 11:22	Patients' perspective Jan Geissler (Patvocates, DE)
11:22 - 11:40	Industry perspective of patient-reported outcomes in oncology: Values, Challenges and Optimization Sheetal Patel (Genentech, US)

11:40 - 12:30

Panel Discussion

Guest paelist:

- Paul Kamudoni (Merck KGaA, DE)

12:30 - 14:30

Offsite lunch (De Abt)

SESSION 4: THE USE OF BIG DATA IN ONCOLOGY DRUG DEVELOPMENT

Session Chairs: Blanca Garcia-Ochoa (MSD, ES); Ruth Plummer (CDDF, UK)

14:30 - 14:35

Session opening

14:35 - 14:45

Set the scene

Mark Lawler (CDDF, UK)

14:45 - 15:00

Academic perspective

Aedin Culhane (University of Limerick, IE)

15:00 - 15:15

EMA perspective

Alexandra Pacurariu (EMA, NL)

15:15 - 15:30

Patient perspective

Gilliosa Spurrier-Bernard (MPNE, FR)

15:30- 15:45

Industry perspective

Simon Bates (Johnson & Johnson, UK)

15:45 - 16:35

Panel Discussion

17:00 - 18:00

CDDF Board Meeting (Internal meeting)

19:00 - 22:00

Onsite dinner

Day 3 : Wednesday, 11 February 2026

SESSION 5: DIVERSITY IN CLINICAL TRIALS

Session Chairs: Axel Glasmacher (CDDF, DE); Karin Kastrati (WECAN, DE)

10:00 - 10:05	Session opening
10:05 - 10:20	Set the scene Fergus Sweeney (CDDF, IE)
10:20 - 10:40	Academic perspective Pauline Reiß (University of Bochum, DE)
10:40- 11:00	Industry perspective on clinical development planning Sarah Bentouati (Roche, CH)
11:00 - 11:20	EU regulatory perspective Harald Enzmann (BfArM, DE)
11:20 - 12:10	Panel Discussion Guest panelists: • Birgit Wolf (Bayer, DE) • Katie Rizvi (Youth Cancer Europe, UK)

SESSION 6: CONFERENCE WRAP-UP AND NEXT STEPS

Session Chairs: Ruth Plummer (CDDF, UK); Mark Lawler (CDDF, UK)

12:10 - 12:30	Wrap up panel discussion
12:30 - 12:35	Farewell message Ruth Plummer (CDDF, UK)
12:35- 13:15	Lunch and departure