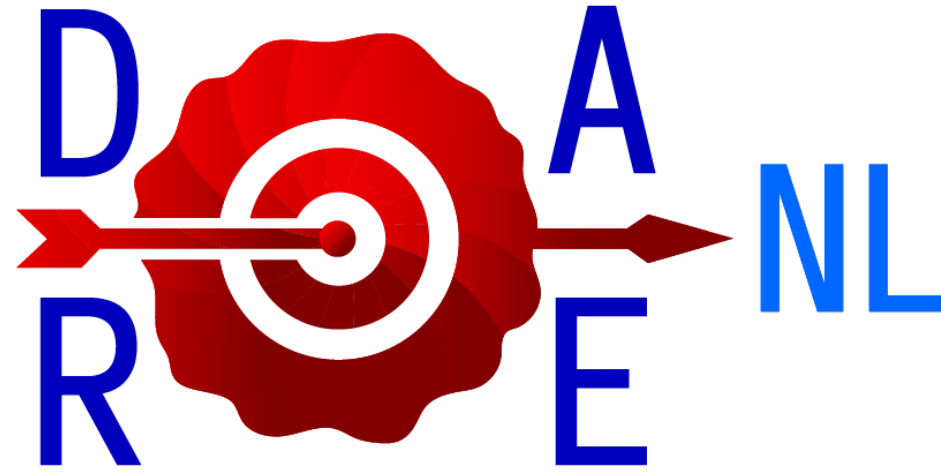




The Future of ATMP Development and Collaboration



Trudy Straetemans, Associate Professor UMC Utrecht

Project lead and Executive Board member DARE-NL

How it all started

Identification of the challenges for innovation of cell and gene therapies



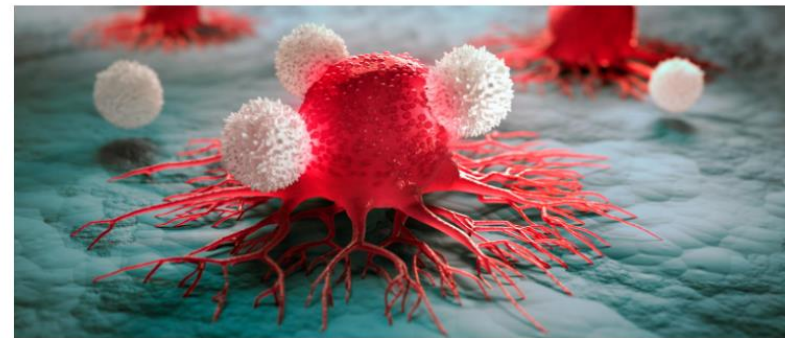
NL joined forces in DARE-NL - 5.3 mio granted



Start September 2022

[Home](#) / [Over KWF](#) / [Toegang tot geneesmiddelen](#) / [Toekenning DARE-NL](#)

KWF lanceert uniek Nederlands platform voor cel- en gentherapie



Ruim 5 miljoen voor betere toegang tot veelbelovende nieuwe kankerbehandelingen

KWF heeft €5,3 miljoen toegekend aan DARE-NL, een nieuw nationaal platform voor de ontwikkeling van cel- en gentherapie. Met dit unieke samenwerkingsverband wil KWF de beschikbaarheid van veelbelovende cel- en gentherapieën verbeteren zodat meer patiënten kunnen profiteren van hun levensreddende potentieel. Vrijwel elk Nederlands kankeronderzoeksinstituut is aangesloten om van DARE-NL een succes te maken.

Levend geneesmiddel

Celltherapie is een behandeling met levende lichaamscellen. Meestal zijn dat cellen van het afweersysteem van de patiënt zelf. Deze afweercellen worden uit het bloed gehaald en moleculair bewerkt zodat ze kankercellen beter kunnen herkennen en vernietigen. Daarna krijgt de patiënt ze per infuus weer toegediend. Van gentherapie is sprake als ook het DNA van de afweercellen wordt aangepast.

Rapport Cel- en Gentherapie

In het rapport 'Cel- en gentherapie naar de oncologische klinische praktijk' ([English version](#)) doet KWF concrete aanbevelingen om veelbelovende cel- en gentherapieën sneller en vaker bij de patiënt te krijgen.

[Bekijk het rapport](#)

Conferentie Cel- en gentherapie

Op 6 oktober vond de conferentie 'Cell and gene therapy in oncology - The development of academic innovations' plaats voor professionals uit het cel- en gentherapieveld.

[Lees de samenvatting \(Engels\)](#)

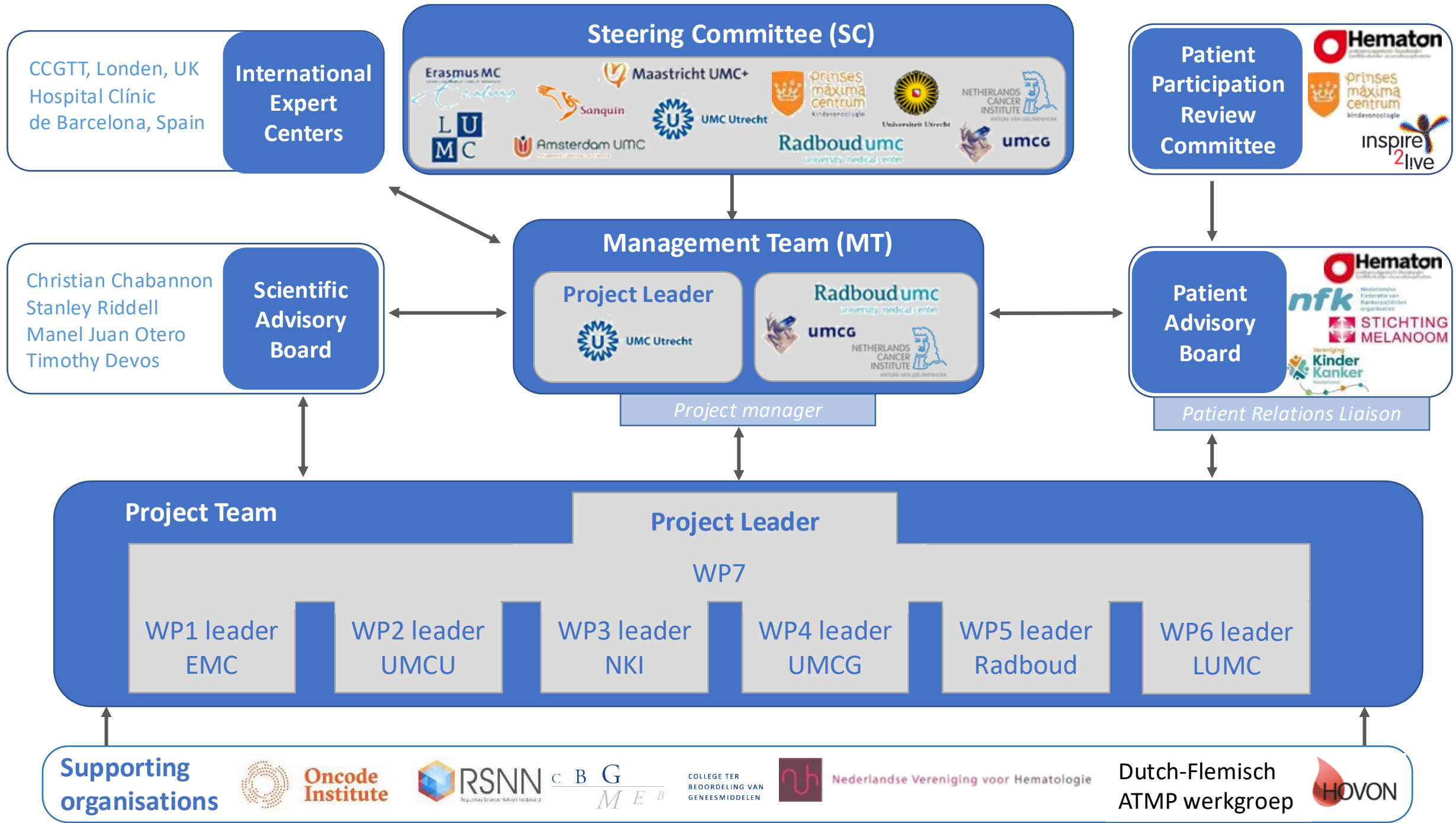
[Bekijk de presentaties \(Engels\)](#)

Betere toegang tot cel- en gentherapie

KWF wil dat veelbelovende cel- en gentherapieën beter doorontwikkeld worden zodat patiënten er sneller, vaker en tegen een eerlijke prijs over kunnen beschikken.

[Meer over cel- en gentherapie](#)

<https://www.oncologie.nu/podcasts/nieuw-nederlands-platform-voor-cel-en-gentherapie/>





Motto of DARE-NL Annual Meeting 2025

**If you want to go fast, go alone;
if you want to go far, go
together**

What we achieved

**Suppliers,
Biotech &
Pharma**



**Clinical research
and care**



**Fundamental
scientists**

**Regulatory
science,
Health
economics**



Patients



**Translational
scientists**



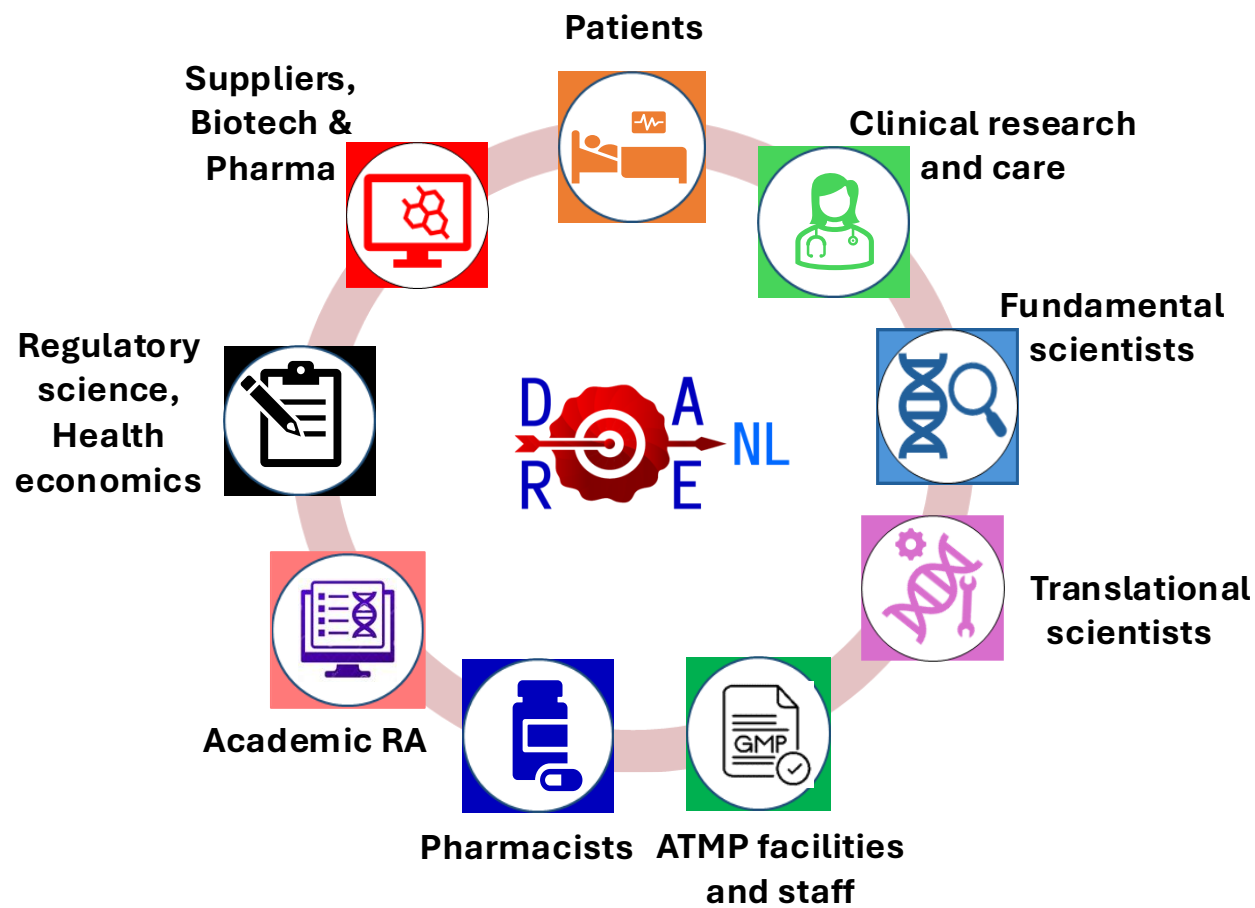
Academic RA



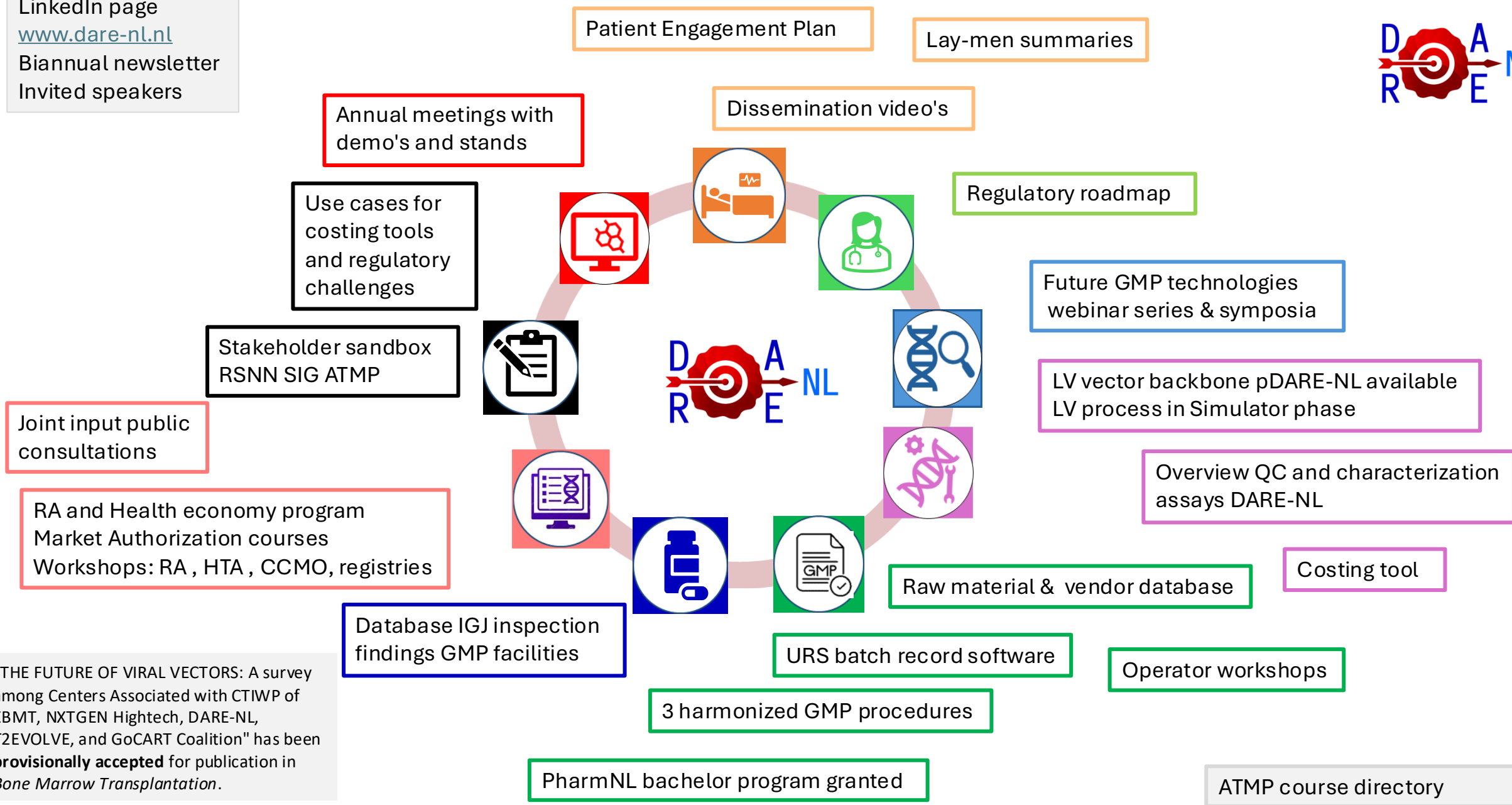
Pharmacists



**ATMP facilities
and staff**



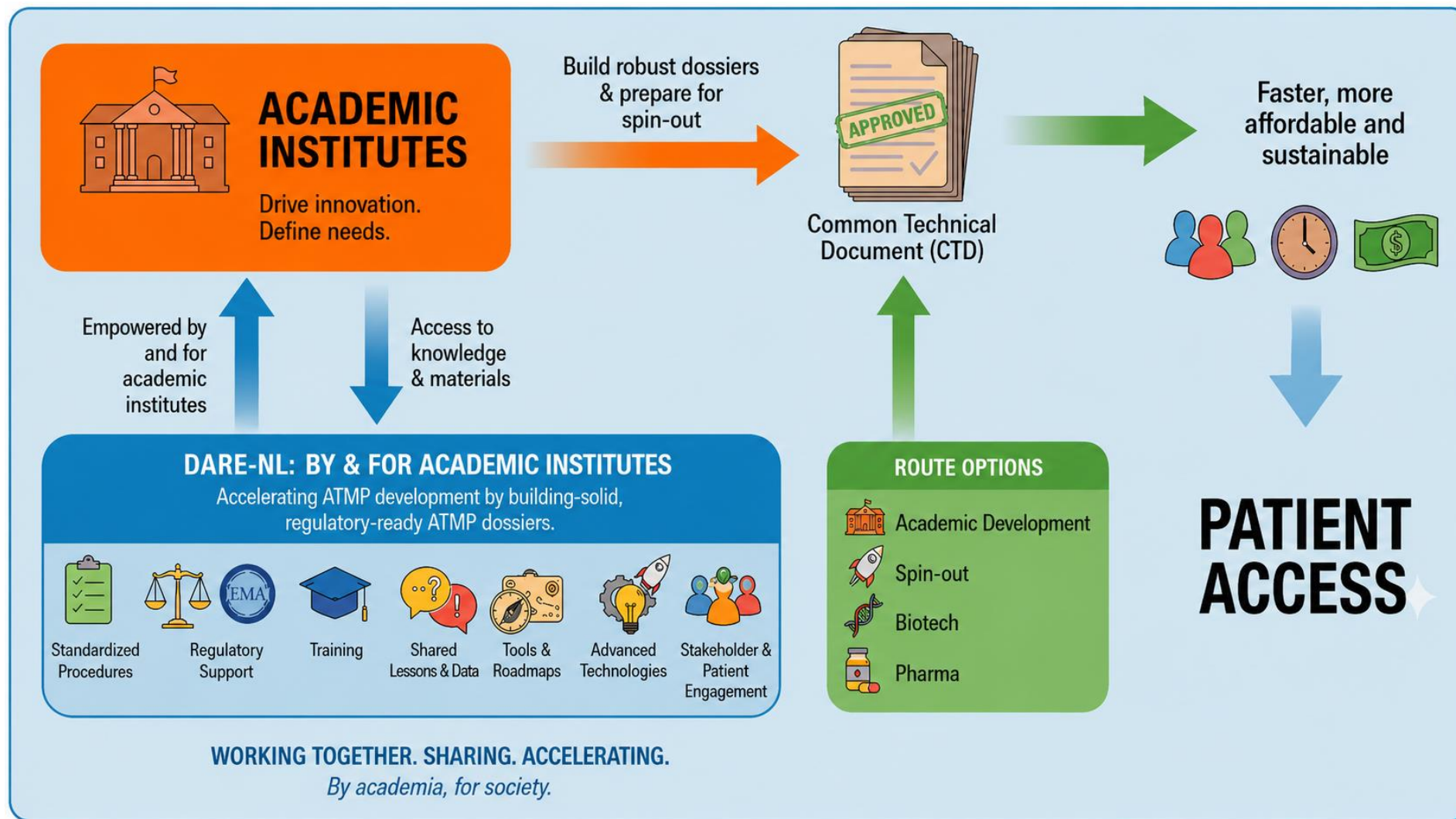
LinkedIn page
www.dare-nl.nl
Biannual newsletter
Invited speakers



"THE FUTURE OF VIRAL VECTORS: A survey among Centers Associated with CTIWP of EBMT, NXTGEN Hightech, DARE-NL, T2EVOLVE, and GoCART Coalition" has been **provisionally accepted** for publication in *Bone Marrow Transplantation*.

DARE-NL:

Accelerate ATMP development by building solid dossiers



Education

Cleanroom Operator/ATMP technicians



1st DARE-NL **operator** workshops: **BY** operators **FOR** operators

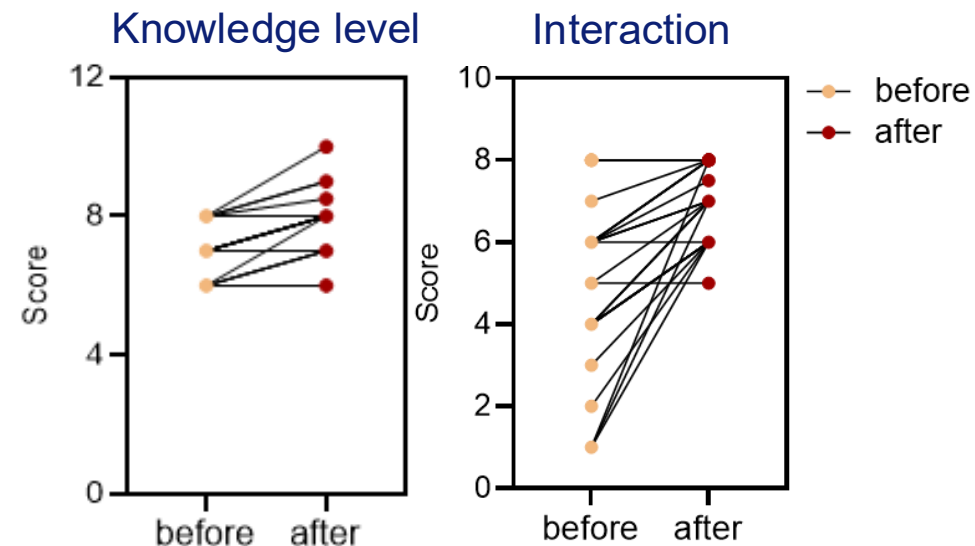
Seminars



Break-out sessions



Evaluation



80! Participants from all consortium partners

Annual operator workshops secured & bachelor courses developed: Future training for Cell & Gene Therapy professionals

Next workshop
July 3rd 2026 @ NKI



Use cases to educate the ATMP community



Details

Date:

April 14, 2026

Time:

09:30 - 14:00

Event Category:

Event

Venue

Princess Máxima
Center

Heidelberglaan 25

Utrecht, 3584CS

Netherlands + Google

Map

DARE-NL – Workshop on Navigating Comparability in ATMPs

April 14, 2026 | 09:30 - 14:00

Engineering Comparability in Early-Phase CART: Risk- Based Equivalence in Practice

Thilo Buck, PhD (Senior Consultant) &
Frank van Engelenburg, PhD (Manager Consultant)

DARE-NL – Workshop on Navigating Comparability in ATMPs
April 14, 2026 | 09:30 - 14:00
Presentation: 10:50 - 11:10



3D PHARM X CHANGE
DEDICATED DRUG DEVELOPMENT XPERTS

Fundamentals of comparability and Quality by Design

Sara Melief, Patrick Burger (3D-PXC)

Ineke Jonker – Hoogerkamp (Eagle Pharma Consult)



International Collaboration

Translational and access gaps for Advanced Therapies

- Academic infrastructures instrumental in the development of and access to ATMPs
- Maturation of cell and gene therapy field & rapid technological advancements

Challenging landscape

- Discontinuation commercial cell therapy programs
- Rising development costs
- Rapid technological and scientific developments
- Remaining complex regulatory frameworks
- Unequal national reimbursement frameworks in EU
- Clinical trial relocations
- Lack of (seed) funds

Optimal leverage of academic ATMP infrastructures – a survey from the EBMT-CTIWP



CTIWP: Cellular Therapy and Immune monitoring Working Party of European Bone Marrow Transplantation Society

Shortage in skills from an ATMP industry perspective (sept 2025)



Theoretical Knowledge	Score	Technical Skills	Score	Quality Shortage	Score	Quantity Shortage	Score	Soft Skills	Score
Manufacturing and process knowledge	11	Cell culture and bioprocessing	9	Aseptic processing	29	Aseptic processing	23	Teamwork	37
Biology and cell biology	10	Analytical techniques and methodologies	7	Digital and automation technologies	25	Digital and automation technologies	18	Critical thinking	36
Technical skills and awareness	8	Aseptic processing and contamination control	6	Bioinformatics	22	Bioinformatics	12	Communication	36
Regulatory and quality compliance	6	Regulatory compliance and documentation	4	Mathematics	15	Mathematics	10	Problem-solving	34
Interdisciplinary skills	3	Interdisciplinary skills and cross-training	4	Contamination control	1	Contamination control	1	Emotional intelligence	24
		Hand-on/practical laboratory experience	4	Flow cytometry	1	Safety expertise (e.g., cellular toxicology)	1	Leadership capability	21
		Risk assessment	1	Current good manufacturing practice (CGMP) and quality functions	1	CGMP and quality functions	1	Digital capability	20
		Time management	1	Microbiology	1	Microbiology	1	Honesty	1
								Dedication and work ethic	1
								Friendliness and professionalism	1

Skill-requirements heatmap; green boxes represent skill sets with the least need (score: <5), yellow boxes indicate skill areas of moderate need (score: 5–10), and **red boxes identify skills of greatest need (>10)**, as identified across survey responses from 40 participants in the advanced-therapy medicinal products (ATMPs) industry.

Opportunity's & activities



- Leverage already existing networks focussed on ATMPs
 - **DARE-NL** Foster harmonization national and international
- Structured and question driven capacity building
 - **DARE-NL** Up-to-date mapping of NL academic ATMP capacity in close collaboration Medical departments
- Development of advanced collaboration models
 - **DARE-NL & medical departments** Intensify sharing knowledge AND explore sharing personnel
 - Intensify collaboration with other networks in ecosystem

How to secure and bring focus into these activities?



KWF Valuable business case grant awarded

DARE-NL by DESIGN a 2-year add-on project

Kick-off April 2026

All DARE-NL partners play their **unique role** in the development of ATMPs. They possess expertise to translate, test and improve new therapies. This knowledge **needs to be shared** now and **in the future**. That is what DARE-NL by DESIGN will secure.



Sonja Zweegman, Professor of Hematology, Head of department of Hematology Amsterdam UMC



Access to advanced gene-editing technologies and high-quality raw materials is essential for translating non-viral gene therapies. Through DARE-EDIT-NL (WP5), we **embed clinically applicable technologies** from the start, ensuring innovations move **efficiently toward approval** and clinical testing without costly redevelopment to meet regulatory requirements.



Niels Geijssen, Professor Developmental Biology and Regenerative Medicine LUMC and co-founder NTrans Technologies BV

By building on the efforts of the ATMP working party, not only by **connecting Dutch ATMP facilities**, but also by actions such as **harmonizing** procedures for translation, analytical tests and GMP, **DARE-NL reduces the burden on individual facilities**. This is what DARE-NL by DESIGN will secure now and in the future.



Sofieke de Wilde, Hospital pharmacist and Head ATMP facility Erasmus MC

 www.DARE-NL.nl

 [DARE-NL](#)

 info@DARE-NL.nl

DARE-NL By DESIGN will



... develop a durable and financially sustainable infrastructure....
... embedded in and supported by the broader innovation ecosystem,....
....focused on supporting faster patient access to more effective ATMPs.

DARE-NL core activities

- Infrastructure for knowledge sharing and joint activities
- Training and education
- Representation of the academic ATMP community

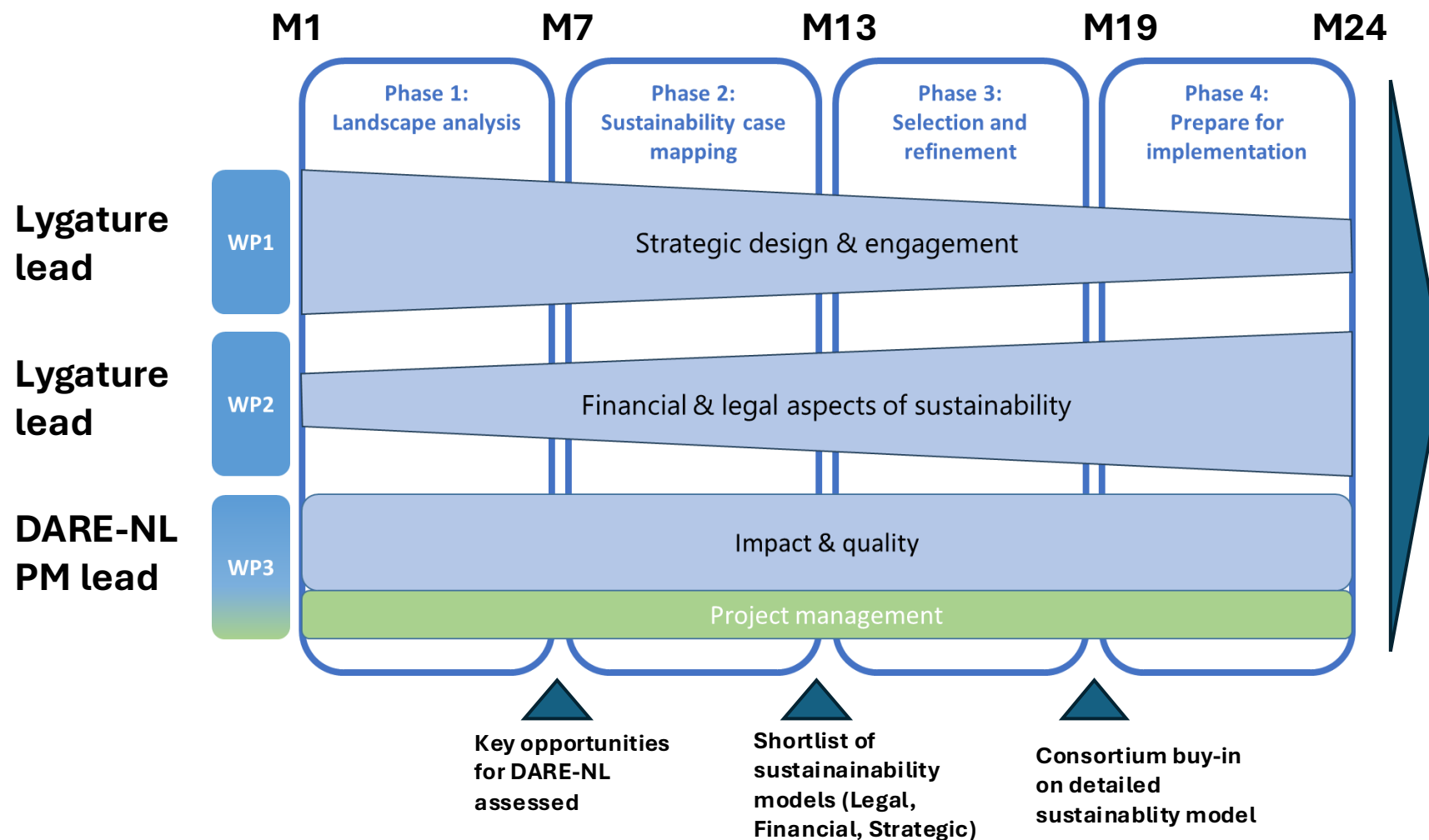
Add on

Supplier and material qualifications

Facilitating cost-effective viral vector production

Facilitating cost-effective biologics and novel technologies

DARE-NL by DESIGN workflow



Launch-ready sustainability model including:

- Draft legal documents,
- Financial plans,
- Operational outlines,
- Communication materials
- Team composition/ commitments
- Connections to/ conversation with interested funders

Allows full implementation of the selected model.



Zorginstituut Nederland



Inspectie voor de Gezondheidszorg
Ministerie van Volksgezondheid,
Welzijn en Sport



Examples of key opportunities

Collaboration



Letter of Intent to structurally collaborate
soon to be officially announced

Take home messages

DARE-NL:

- A new collaboration model
- By the academic ATMP community for society
- Continuous evaluation of the infrastructure
- Open to broaden indications/disease areas

Systemic hurdles can only be solved with all stakeholders together

Partnerships are being formed and intensified during DARE-NL by Design

We will reach out! Now it is time to act. Tips trucs and collaborate?
info@dare-nl.nl

Core team members



Trudy Straetemans
Assoc. Prof. ATMP UMCU,
DARE-NL PL, Lead WP2



Edwin Bremer
Professor UMCG,
DARE-NL MT member, Lead WP4



Harry Dolstra
Head CTF Radboudumc,
DARE-NL MT member, Lead WP5



Inge Jedema
Head Transl. Cellular Therapy NKI,
DARE-NL MT member, Lead WP3



Emma de Pater
Director CTF Erasmus MC,
DARE-NL PT member, Lead WP1



Pauline Meij
Head CGT Center LUMC,
DARE-NL PT member, Lead WP6



Carlijn Voermans
Head of Department, Sanquin,
DARE-NL SC member



Friso Calkoen
Ped. Oncologist PMC,
DARE-NL SC member



Lourens Bloem
Ass. Prof. Clin. Therapeutics UU,
DARE-NL SC member, co-lead WP6



Monique Grommé
RP Organbank MUMC+,
DARE-NL SC member



Tuna Mutis
Prof. Hem. Immunotherapy AUMC,
DARE-NL SC member, Lead WP4.2/5

Project management



Simone Punt
Project Manager,
Patient Relations Liaison



Merle Hattink
Project Manager



Sophie Huisjes-Berends
Partnership Leader



Mats Hallie
Assoc. Partnership Manager



DARE-NL Annual Consortium Meeting 2026

18 September 2026
Princess Máxima Center
Utrecht



Program and Registration
www.dare-nl.nl/registration

ATMP impact from patient to ecosystem



Trudy Straetemans
Ass. Prof. In Transl. Immunology
UMC Utrecht



Sophie-Huiskes Berends
Partnership Leader
Lygature



Hugo Calderon
Viral Vector Prod. Manager
Hospital Clínic de Barcelona



Tuna Mutis
Prof. of Immunohematology
VU Medical Center Amsterdam



Friso Calkoen
Pediatric oncologist
Princess Máxima Center



Evy Schrijvers
Patient Representative
Amsterdam UMC



Christos Georgiadis
Research Fellow in Gene therapy
University College London



Ray Schiffelers
Prof. of Nanomedicine
UMC Utrecht

Next-generation engineering strategies

