20 years of Pioneering Medicine Together in 20 milestones

2006
Foundations for National Health Innovation Established

In 2006 and 2007, Top Institute Pharma (TI Pharma) and the Center for Translational Molecular Medicine (CTMM) were launched, laying the foundation for large-scale public-private collaboration in health innovation and for what would later become Lygature.

2007
Catalyzing Collaboration in Global Health

A partnering event by TI Pharma on neglected tropical diseases brought key global stakeholders together and marked the start of Lygature's leading role in global health.

2009
Addressing Regulatory Gaps for Complex Medicines

The Non-Biological Complex Drugs (NBCD) working group launched as a first-of-its-kind partnership addressing regulatory challenges for this special class of previously unclassified group of complex medicines.

2010
Laying the Groundwork for the Dutch LSH Ecosystem

By nurturing the Life Sciences & Health (LSH) innovation program, the top institutes helped create sector-wide cohesion and laid the foundation for the top sector LSH, now known as Health~Holland.

2011
Pioneering Health Data Infrastructure

The launch of the CTMM Translational Research IT (TraIT) project marked the start of Lygature's pioneering role in building interoperable data infrastructures for health research.

2012
Shift from Funding Projects to Making Partnerships Work

Major shifts in the national funding landscape marked the end of direct program investments by CTMM and TI Pharma and enabled a strategic transition toward professional partnership management — an approach that continues to generate impact today.

2012
Transforming Drug Discovery Through Shared Assets

With the European Lead Factory, €230 million in public and private funding was mobilized, creating a first-of-its-kind platform to accelerate collaborative drug discovery.

2013
Guiding Health Foundations in Public-Private Partnerships

The first "expertise assignment", commissioned by KWF, provided strategic guidance on how health foundations can effectively participate in Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs).

2014
Making Patients Partners in Collaboration

Patient participation became an essential building block for successful public-private partnerships - the APPROACH project served as a leading example through its integration of patient participation in project governance.

2015
Contributing to the Foundation of Europe's Health Data Ecosystem

Across more than 10 projects over a decade, Lygature has stimulated FAIR sharing of data and helped shaping and maturing the European health data ecosystem.

2015
Catalyzing Regulatory Collaboration

Building on the Escher platform, the Regulatory Science Network Netherlands (RSNN) launched its activities to advance regulatory science through structured, multi-stakeholder collaboration.

2016
One Organization to Bridge Pharma and MedTech

Convergence in Pharma and MedTech was the driving force behind merging CTMM and TI Pharma into one organization: the Lygature Foundation, uniting expertise to manage increasingly complex health innovation partnerships.

2017
Operationalizing a National Oncology Ecosystem

Lygature partnered with Oncode Institute to operationalize a groundbreaking national initiative — setting a model later applied in other large-scale collaborations.

2019
Scaling Collaboration Against Antimicrobial Resistance

Through EU projects such as GNA-NOW, UNITEAFTB and ENDZAMR, combined with European Lead Factory programs, Lygature has built and manages a €300 million AMR research portfolio.

2021
Strengthening National Health Data Coordination

Health-RI received NGF funding and became an independent foundation, bringing together multiple initiatives to advance sustainable and FAIR health data use in the Netherlands.

2022
Lygature Expands Legal and Ethical Expertise in Medical Research

Lygature expanded its capacity to support medical research collaborations in health law, privacy, and ethics, ensuring the foundations of responsible innovation.

2023
Creating a Shared Home for Life Science Collaboration

Together with partners, Lygature launched HI-FIVE, a joint office space that strengthens collaboration and connectivity within the Dutch LSH ecosystem.

2023
Milestone in European Health Innovation Partnerships

IDERHA became Lygature's 20th project within the Innovative Health Initiative (and its predecessors) Joint Undertaking, reflecting long-standing leadership in managing large European public-private collaborations.

2025
European Recognition of Lygature as a Research Organization

The European Commission validates the Lygature Foundation as a research organization, recognizing its involvement in 35 EU projects with a total budget of over €1 billion in collaborative research.

2025
From Partnership to Patient Impact

The Pediatric Praziquantel Consortium, Lygature's first "pioneering partnership", reached a major milestone in March 2025 when the first children were treated for schistosomiasis with arpraziquantel.

2026

Milestone type

Organization · Ecosystem · Global Health · Health law, Privacy & Ethics · Data infrastructure · Patient engagement · Regulatory innovation

Milestone scope

NL · EU · Global

2006: Foundations for National Health Innovation Established / Cover article NRC Handelsblad 18 augustus 2005: Rijk investeert in medicijnonderzoek. Source: NRC
2007: Catalyzing Collaboration in Global Health / Trevor Jones at "the new landscape of neglected disease drug development" partnering event in January 2007.
2009: Addressing Regulatory Gaps for Complex Medicines
Cover of Non-Biological Complex Drugs: The Science and the Regulatory Landscape. Source: Springer Nature
2010: Laying the Groundwork for the Dutch LSH Ecosystem / Cover of Topsectorplan Life Sciences & Health. Source: overheid.nl
2011: Pioneering Health Data Infrastructure / Cover of TraIT booklet. Source: Lygature
2012: Transforming Drug Discovery Through Shared Assets / Screening robot at the Pivod Park Screening Centre robot in Oss, the Netherlands.
2013: Guiding Health Foundations in Public-Private Partnerships
Cover of TI Pharma Report: Health Foundations Facilitate Translational Research Through Public-Private Partnerships. Source: Lygature
2014: Making Patients Partners in Collaboration / Article "Making the patient voice heard in a research consortium: experiences from an EU project (IMI-APPROACH)". Source: Springer Nature
2015: Catalyzing Regulatory Collaboration / Screenshot of the RSNN 20 Years animation shown at the RSNN Annual Workshop 2015.
2016: One Organization to Bridge Pharma and MedTech / Reveal of Lygature brand name at merger event in Utrecht in June 2015.
2017: Operationalizing a National Oncology Ecosystem / Logo-icon of the Oncode Institute. Source: Oncode Institute
2019: Scaling Collaboration Against Antimicrobial Resistance / Screenshot of the GNA-NOW Innovative Health Initiative project page. Source: IHI
2021: Strengthening National Health Data Coordination / Screenshot of the Health-RI website. Source: Health-RI
2023: Creating a Shared Home for Life Science Collaboration / Picture of partner-organizations' logos at entrance of HI-FIVE office space in Utrecht.
2023: Milestone in European Health Innovation Partnerships / Logo of the IHI IDERHA project. Source: IDERHA
2025: From Partnership to Patient Impact / A preschool-aged girl receives treatment with arpraziquantel in Bugiri District in Uganda. Photo credit: Kibuuka Moksis/Condid Local

20 YEARS

lygature

20 years of pioneering partnerships for patient impact.