



# H<sub>2</sub>O

HEALTH OUTCOMES  
OBSERVATORY

## Press Release – 12.10.2020

### European Initiative Amplifies the Patient Voice to Improve Health Care Outcomes and Sustainability

- The Health Outcomes Observatory (H2O) IMI project will give patients in Europe a more influential voice. Not only in medical decisions that affect them, but also in how healthcare systems can provide the best and most efficient care for all patients in the future.
- For the first time, we will collect patient-reported data on the large scale in four European countries with an initial focus on diabetes, inflammatory bowel disease, and cancer.
- H2O will achieve this thanks to an unprecedented consortium of 23 partners representing patients, scientists, clinicians, IT specialists, pharma industry and health care professionals.

H2O is the first endeavour ever to collect and incorporate patient outcomes into health care decision making – at an individual and population level – across multiple jurisdictions in Europe. The project's objective is to collect patient-reported outcomes in a standardized way and use aggregated, anonymized data to define outcome-based values for health care intervention. Within two years, H2O will set up independent data platforms, the Observatories, in Austria, Germany, The Netherlands, and Spain. Project partners convened this week for a three-day virtual kick-off meeting. A highlight of the meeting was a public webinar on 12 October with keynote speaker Dr. Maarten de Wit, longstanding patient advocate, Patient Research Partner, author, developer of Patient-Reported Outcome Measures and prior executive member of the European League Against Rheumatism.

23 world-leading institutions—including university hospitals, patient groups, and pharma industry—are joining together to design the health data infrastructure of the future. The H2O partnership is being led by the Medical University of Vienna and Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited (“Takeda”), and it has received funding from the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI). IMI is the world's biggest public-private partnership in life sciences, backed by the European Union and the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA).

#### How H2O Works

The H2O project will provide patients digital tools to allow them to measure their outcomes in a standardized manner. This means that patients can then communicate with their physicians and other healthcare providers in an evidence-based, structured manner that resonates with scientists and gives



physicians and patients deeper insights to help them align on the right course of action. Patients can download the app independently, allowing patients to use it also outside of the partner hospitals.

Patients will decide on the healthcare professionals with whom they want to share their data. Patients, supported by their healthcare professionals, can then compare progress with aggregated data of other patients with similar health conditions. Aggregated data will be available to form the basis for new research and the development of innovative evidence-based treatments.

"H2O will give patients in Europe a more influential voice on medical decisions" said Professor Tanja Stamm, Head of the Section for Outcomes Research, Center for Medical Statistics, Informatics and Intelligent Systems at the Medical University of Vienna. "For the first time, we will collect patient-reported data on the large scale in four European countries. We will unify the fragmented European outcome data to better serve patients and other stakeholders and initiate a more competitive outcomes research environment in Europe."

"H2O is about putting the patient voice at the core of health systems" said Meni Styliadou, Head of Public Policy & Sustainable Health, EUCAN at Takeda. "We are excited to provide the tools to improve individual care and create the evidence to support decision-making so that everyone in the health care system has the best possible outcome."

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#### About H2O

H2O is a public-private partnership funded by the Innovative Medicines Initiative and EFPIA members. It was launched on 1 October 2020 and will run for 60 months, through September 2025.

#### Supported by a grant from the IMI

This project has received funding from the Innovative Medicines Initiative 2 Joint Undertaking under grant agreement No 945345-2. This Joint Undertaking receives support from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and EFPIA and from Trial Nation, JDRF.

#### H2O partners

The 23 partners include: Medizinische Universität Wien (**coordinator**) and Takeda Pharmaceuticals International AG (**project leader**); Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Erasmus Universitair Medisch Centrum Rotterdam, Institut Català de la Salut – Hospital Universitari Vall d'Hebron, Novartis Pharma AG, F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, and Eli Lilly International as **Executive Committee members**; and King's College London, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Forum Europeen des Patients / European Patients' Forum, The European Institute for Innovation through Health Data, The Hyve BV, TEAM IT Research, Karolinska Universitetssjukhuset, Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele, De Stichting Integraal Kankercentrum Nederland, AbbVie INC, JDRF, Medtronic International Trading SARL, Pfizer Ltd, Sanofi-Aventis Recherche & Development, and Trial Nation as **consortium members**.

<http://health-outcomes-observatory.eu/>



#### About the Medical University of Vienna

Medical University of Vienna (MedUni Vienna) is one of the most traditional medical education and research facilities in Europe. With almost 8,000 students, it is currently the largest medical training centre in the German-speaking countries. With 5,500 employees, 26 departments and three clinical institutes, 12 medical theory centres and numerous highly specialised laboratories, it is also one of Europe's leading research establishments in the biomedical sector. Together with the Vienna General Hospital around 80,000 patients are treated annually as in-patients. The out-patient and special out-patient wards are frequented by around a further 1.2 million people.

For more information, visit <https://www.meduniwien.ac.at/web/en>.



#### About Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited

Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited is a global, values-based, R&D-driven biopharmaceutical leader headquartered in Japan, committed to bringing Better Health and a Brighter Future to patients by translating science into highly innovative medicines. Takeda focuses its R&D efforts on four therapeutic areas: Oncology, Rare Diseases, Neuroscience, and Gastroenterology (GI). We also make targeted R&D investments in Plasma-Derived Therapies and Vaccines. We are focusing on developing highly innovative medicines that contribute to making a difference in people's lives by advancing the frontier of new treatment options and leveraging our enhanced, collaborative R&D engine and capabilities to create a robust, modality-diverse pipeline. Our employees are committed to improving quality of life for patients and to working with our partners in health care in approximately 80 countries.

For more information, visit <https://www.takeda.com>.

#### Web links:

Health Outcomes Observatory (H2O) <http://health-outcomes-observatory.eu/>

Linked In: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/imi-h2o-health-outcomes-observatory/>

Twitter: @IMI\_H2O, #IMI\_H2O

YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWq\\_PqPP2N--QsZijzHJrMw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWq_PqPP2N--QsZijzHJrMw)

Innovative Medicines Initiative [www.imi.europa.eu](http://www.imi.europa.eu), @IMI\_JU

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