

# "When the going gets tough, the Dutch get going"

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- Past
- Different expectations
- An example
- Present
- The Bright Future



# **Past**

- Startup funding
- Hiring project-managers, financial controllers, methodologists
- Hiring QA/QC; implement quality system
- Impressive organisation (> 6FTE)
- But not enough studies





#### **Past**

- Top down organisation
- Focus on operational capacity
- Added value for investigators unclear
- Added value for sponsors unclear





### Example

- Drug X: anti-arrhytmic
- Adult program well advanced
- Pediatric Plan approved
- Study protocol for first peds study:
  - 3 escalating doses, all ages
  - Objective: PK & tolerability



- Feasibility within MCRN Network:
  - No need for such a drug
  - Trial will never be approved
  - Recruitment will be impossible
  - Thus reluctant to participate
- Dutch Central Ethics Committee (CCMO):
  - Non-therapeutic: No way!
- Free Consultancy:
  - Change design into:
    - Bayesian type adjusted study
    - targeting desired exposure
    - or better targeting desired interval on ECG.
- Result: study started as planned in US



## Mismatch in expectations

- Added value for Sponsors?
  - Feasibility analysis very realistic
  - Quick access to investigators
  - Many (for the NL situation) non-feasible studies in PIP's
  - Science was done in PIP, now get the studies done: operational mode
  - MCRN in scientific mode
  - At the start-up: Industrial Founding Fathers of the MCRN: all local offices.
    - PIP's are not written here



# Mismatch in expectations

- Added value for Investigators/Academia?:
  - Did not feel represented/involved: lack of interest
  - Drugs in development did not solve their problems:
     lack of interest.
  - Started rediscussing issues that were decided in PIP already: tried to get involved



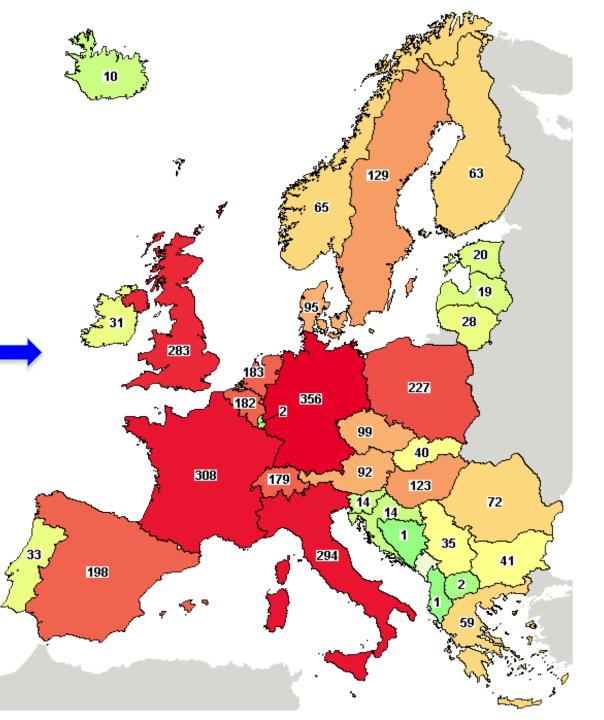
#### Current situation in NL:

Dutch trial register:

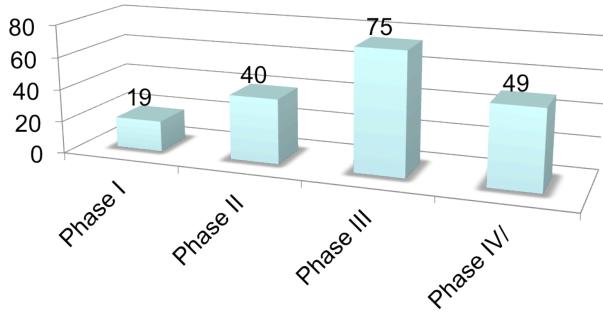
22 trials: 3 industry sponsored

EU trials register: 128 trials

ClinicalTrials.gov:

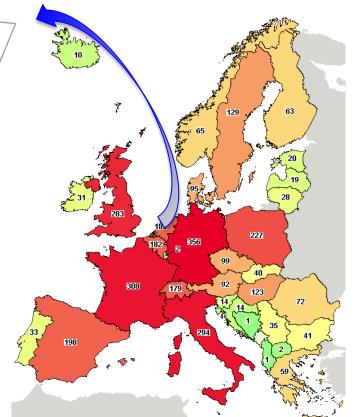






Industry sponsored: 95

Other funding: 88 Total: 183 studies





- Network of experts and investigators
- Supported by 0.5 FTE coordinator
- Bottom-up approach: Network by and for investigators
  - Focus on exchange of information and knowledge
  - Less focus on operational capacity
- Industry/CRO's can access network
  - To get connected
  - For Consultancy type questions



- Ongoing projects (ZonMW funded):
  - Farmacool, Hydrocortisone
- Workpackage leader in 2 FP7 projects
  - Enalapril (CHD), Gabapentin (Pain)
- 2 ZonMW projects in second round
  - Dosefinding of Haldol for Delirium on ICU
  - Studying PK in scavanged samples
- Ongoing discussions on investigator initiatives
- Industrial support currently primarily feasibility questions
- New forms of collaboration explored
  - More focussed on consulting, and bringing people together
  - Get the network involved earlier!

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