



# WHAT ARE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARDS?

Patients and Developers engaged in a dialogue

François Houyez

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**EURORDIS.ORG**



## In memoriam

- Andy Velez
- Eric Abadie



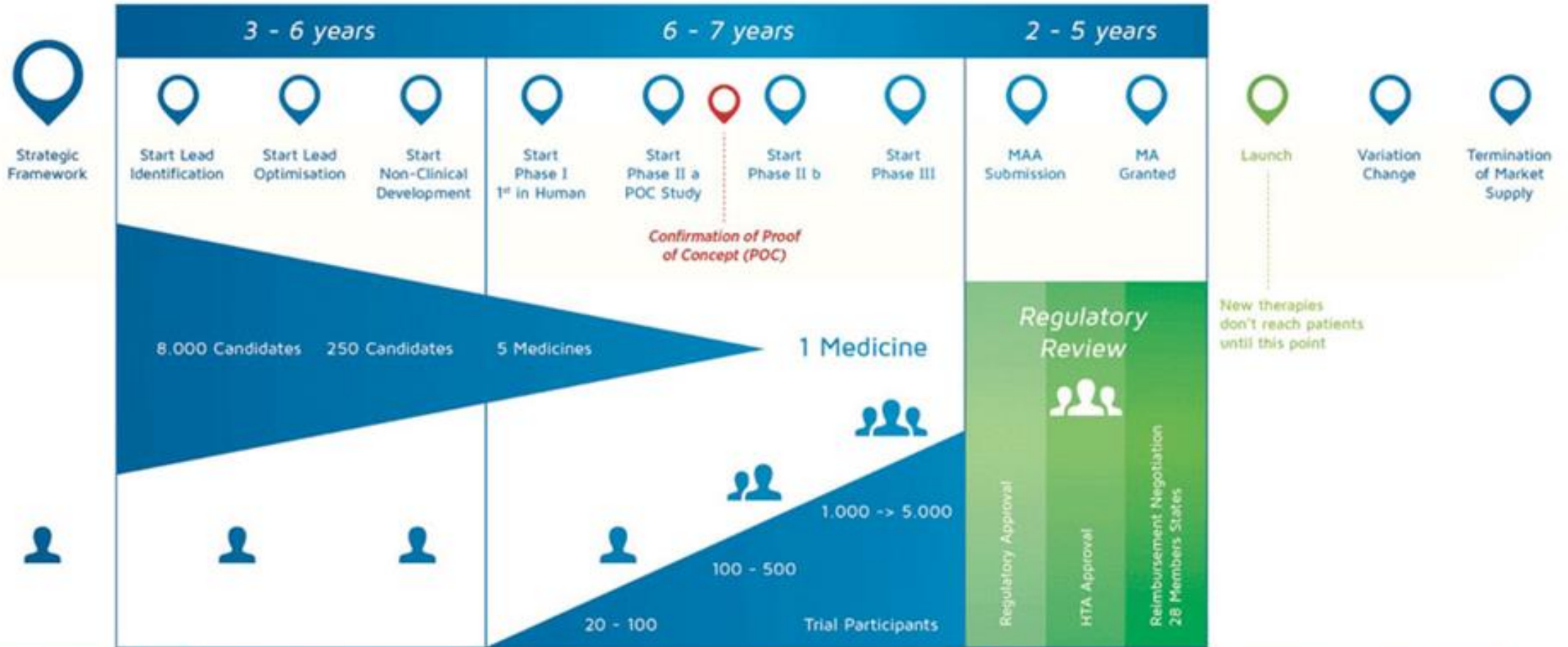
# Where and how can you make a difference?

- In R&D



Your roles

# Overview of Decision Points and Development Steps in Medicines R&D



# Case 1

- Is the main evaluation criteria relevant?  
Familial Adenomatous Polyposis (FAP) and celecoxib (Onsenal®)

- FAP develop hundreds to thousands of colon polyps, usually starting in the teens
- All patients will have colorectal cancer from the polyps usually by age 40

**Developer did not discuss the project with patients!**

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Anti-inflammatory product proposed to reduce the numbers of polyps

Efficacy measured by Intestinal endoscopy: number of polyps decreased by 20%

But does this reduce the risk of cancer by 20%? Or fewer colectomies? No data → **conditional MA**

Medicine withdrawn as clinical efficacy could not be confirmed post-MA and new cardiovascular risk identified (Cox-2 inhib.)



**WITHDRAWN**

This medicine is now withdrawn from use in the European Union.



- **How to attract investment for your disease?**
  - it takes a hundred Euros of drug revenue 17 years from now to motivate someone to invest one Euro today

- <http://www.cureffi.org/2019/04/29/financial-modeling-in-rare-disease/>
  - —Eric Vallabh Minikel

# To invest?

- Average duration of R&D: 17 years

- Discount rate

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Assuming a 8% discount rate

one Euro next year is worth 92¢ today

one Euro in year 17, the year in which this hypothetical drug is approved, is worth only 26¢ today

- Failure rate

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Only half of pre-clinical products enter clinical stage

Only 10% to 12% of drugs entering a Phase I clinical trial ultimately result in an approved New Drug Application (NDA)

Hay Nat Biotechnol. 2014 Jan;32(1):40-51

- Multiplying these together

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The probability that a drug now in early preclinical development will actually result in an approved drug 17 years from now is only 5%

The net present value of a Euro's revenue in the first year of drug approval is one cent today

- One approach to lower the price of medicines



**Is to decrease the risks for investors**

de-risking



# How? To be certain about the research hypothesis

## • **needs**

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- What do patients with the disease need the most?

## • **cause**

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- What causes the disease?
  - What is the molecular target and the mechanism of action that you want a potential drug to have?

## • **benefit**

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- What benefit do you expect that mechanism of action to yield?
- In what group of patients at what disease stage after what duration of treatment?

## • **tools**

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- registries and good clinical trial sites
- clinical tools like biomarkers
  - clinical outcome assessments
  - CAB

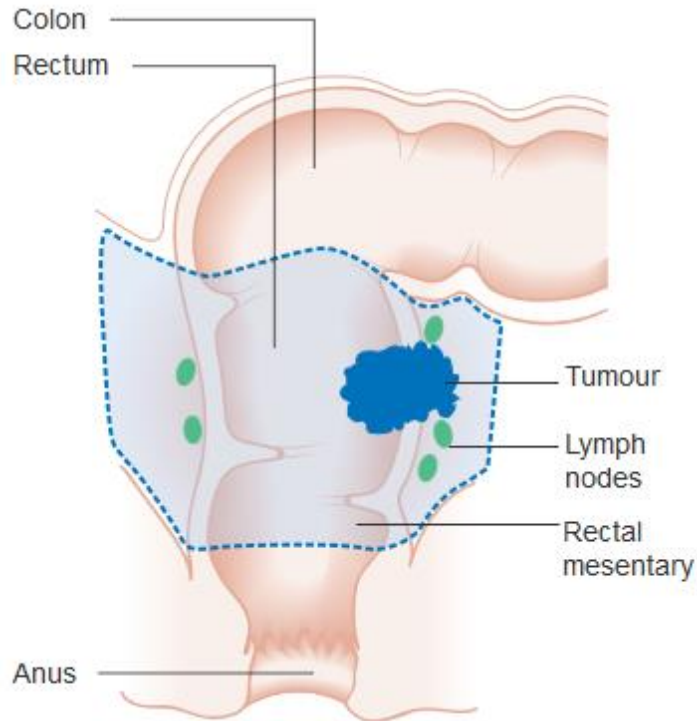
## • **history**

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- natural history datasets
- Placebo data
  - Previous research / Access to data

## Case 2

- Interleukin-2 trial | immune system recovery, HIV infection | The INSIGHT–ESPRIT Study Group and SILCAAT Scientific Committee



- If you don't ask patients, how do you decide?

Wrong choice and your study fails

The contribution from CAB members depends on how well they're connected to the patient community, more than their own knowledge.



## What do trial participants prefer?

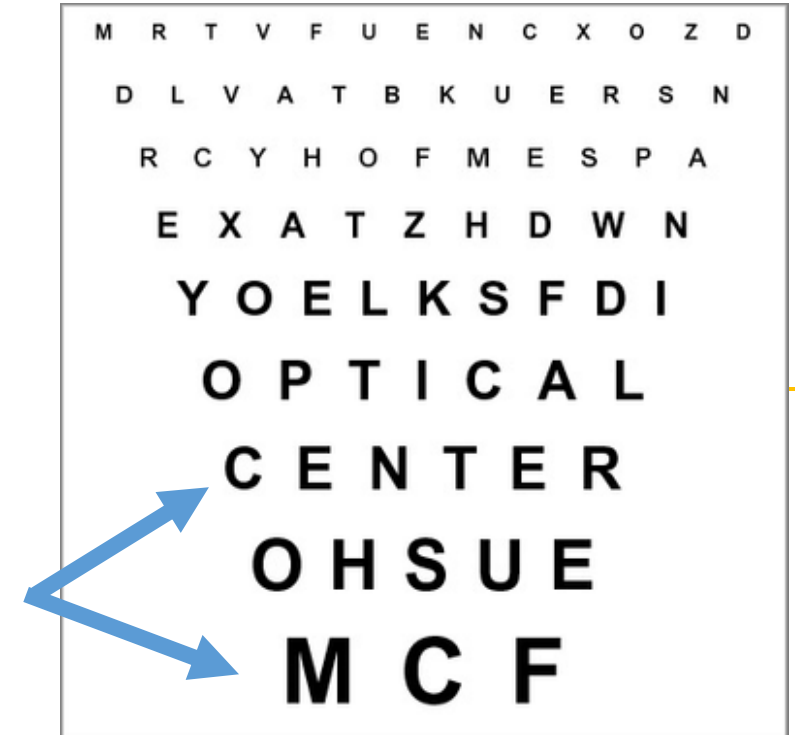
## Case 3

- A treatment to help slow down disease progression?  
Leber Hereditary Optic Neuropathy

An experimental product with  
some improvement in vision

Ok, but does it help?

- What can be measured that confirms the eye chart?
- % who can go on the street unaccompanied?





- Same with industry?

***"With a high quality dialogue,  
patients and regulators can  
only agree."***

Jean-Michel Alexandre

Former CHMP chair, EMA



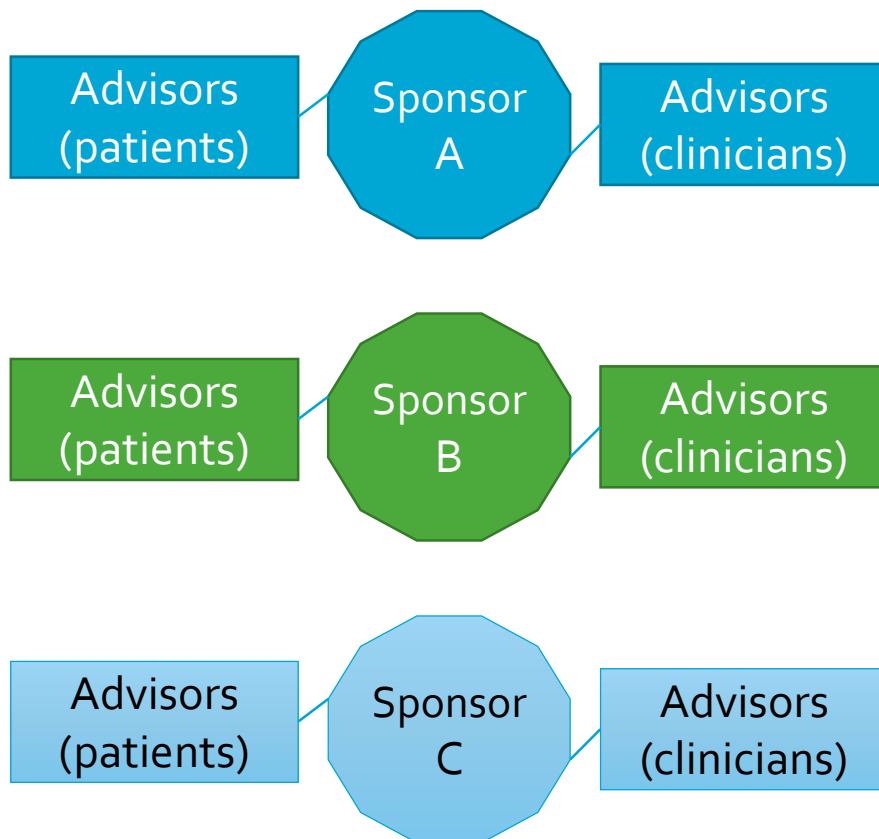
A photograph of two children walking away from the camera on a wooden boardwalk. The child on the right is in a wheelchair and has a large backpack with a yellow circle on it. The child on the left is walking alongside them. The background shows a wooden railing and some foliage. The image has a blue tint and a large blue circle overlaid on it.

# What is a CAB? How do they operate?

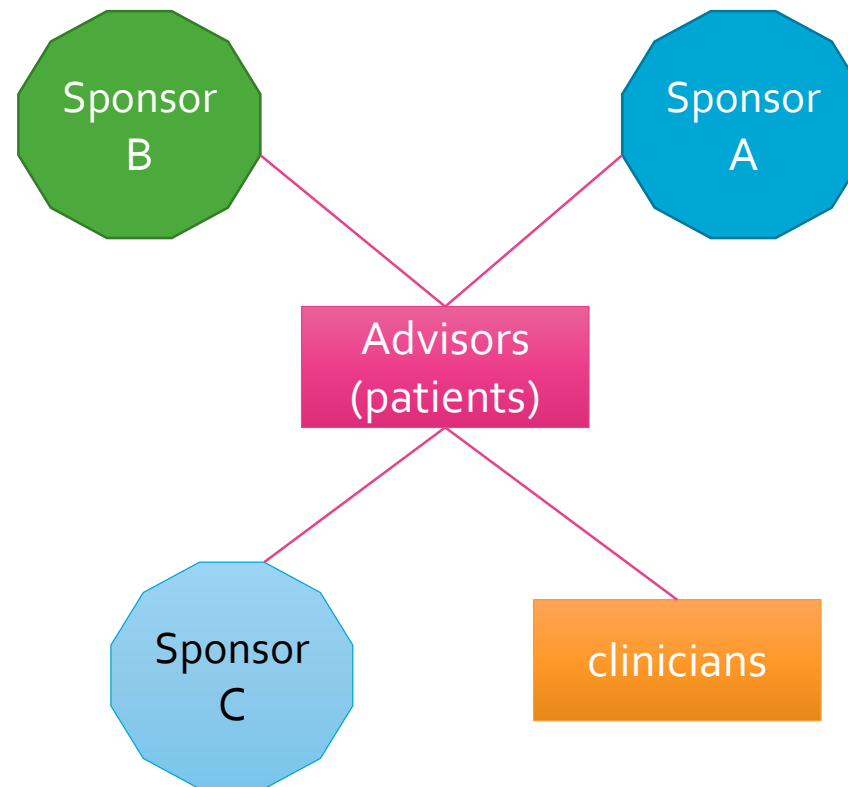
Community  
Advisory Board

# Same disease area, different sponsors

**Sponsor-dependant model:**  
you rarely know who's in



**CAB model**  
Consistency, transparency



# EUROCAB in practice: the “patient investigator”

- Group of 7 - 16 trained patients (same disease or similar) committed to follow up the research over time
- Meet at regular intervals (from twice a year to 6 times a year or more)
- Mentor to help with the organisation, governance
- Costs borne by company/sponsor
- Charter / Memorandum of Understanding (Scope, commitment...)
- Agendas are public (transparency), names of CAB members are public

# 4-day meeting example: 3 sponsors

## Wednesday

Arrival

Preparation of  
2 meetings to  
come

## Thursday

First time meeting  
with sponsor A

## Friday

Meeting with  
Sponsor B

Meeting with  
sponsor C

## Saturday

Training on horizon  
scanning

Organisational  
matters

Departure



# The EUROCRAB programme: incubator, mentor, advisor



## Identification of areas where CABs are needed

- Call to Members
- Feedback from experts (COMP, PRIME...), scanning the horizon
- Webinars to patient networks, meetings, preparatory phase (6-9 months)



## Matchmaking with industry

- Contact or help contacting developers /sponsors in relation to horizon scanning
- Receives direct requests from developers



## Mentoring (EURORDIS staff and others)

- Help preparing and running CAB meetings
- Keeping guidelines up-to-date, developing policies
- Back-end office, "treatment activist advice"

# Issues addressed at a conference about CABs, Bergen, 1997 (haemophilia, cancers, HIV)

- Dependency on pharmaceutical companies
- Operating procedures (Recruitment, training needs, representative character...)
- Outcomes, evaluation
- Attitudes of physicians
- Conflicts of Interest (financial, intellectual, participatory)
- Long-term commitment
- Transparency, confidentiality

# Guidelines and GPEP (Good Patient Engagement Practices)



Developed

In development

# Guidelines headlines - How to start (20 pages)

- Finding volunteers, CAB composition / task description
- Deciding which developers to work with
- Preparing the first meeting / all questions you need to address before
- CAB Scientific Secretariat, CAB liaison with sponsor
- Budget planning
- Declarations of interests and consequences advising sponsors / companies (level 2 Conflict of Interest as for clinical investigators? As more difficult to influence people in a group than isolated ones?
  - the “patient investigator”

# EuroCAB Seal criteria



- Mandatory
  - Open Call for volunteers (among European patient groups and social networks)
  - Agendas and composition made public (members' names)
  - Work with different developers in the field (when applicable)
  - Memorandum of Understanding for each development / research project / study
  - Minutes and follow-up of each meeting
  - EuroCAB contract signed between CAB and EURORDIS
  - Elected CAB chair
- Important to have
  - Scientific secretariat
  - Certification that CAB members followed the e-learning (Open Academy)...
  - Horizon scanning activities

- Plans for 2019 – 2020: 20 CABs

## 5 CABs

- Active in 2019

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- Duchenne MD
- Cystic Fibrosis
- Hered. Haemorr. Telangiec.
- Lymphoma
- Cystinosis

## 10 CABs soon to start

- Coming soon

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- Ataxias
- Retinopathies
- (Multiple Sclerosis)
- Spinal Muscular Dystrophy
- Osteogenesis imperfecta
- Pituitary syndrome
- Myasthenia Gravis
- Fabry disease
- (Thalassaemia & sickle cell)
- (Pompe disease)

## 5 prospects

- Discussions

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- Head and Neck K
- Myelodysplastic syndromes
- Tuberos Sclerosis Complex
- Scleroderma
- (Psoriasis)

CABs gives consistent substance to term “Engagement”

Moving away from “have to find a drug” to  
“have to enable a drug” (Eric Vallabh Minikel)

A comprehensive programme with guidance

EuroCAB provides a solid framework in rare diseases



Thank you for your attention

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# One more word from the investor's perspective

**Table 3:** The results from the base case analysis.

Disease	Drugs	Price	Break-even price	Mark-up*	
		Annual	Annual	Absolute	%
Paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH)	Eculizumab	€358,000	€458,870	-€100,870	-22%
Hunter syndrome	Idursulfase	€600,000	€1,076,579	-€476,579	-44%
Cystic fibrosis (CF)	Lumacaftor/ivacaftor	€169,386	€65,861	€103,525	157%
Cystic fibrosis (CF)	Ataluren	€270,000	€254,464	€15,536	6%
Primary biliary cholangitis (PBC)	Obeticholic acid	€38,021	€46,652	-€8,631	-19%
Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA)	Nusinersen	€240,000	€95,860	€144,140	150%
Neuronal ceroid lipofuscinosis, late infantile type 2 (CLN2)	Cerliponase alpha	€595,971	€799,744	-€203,773	-25%
Metabolic disease - alpha-mannosidosis lysosomal disease	Velmanase alpha	€800,000	€799,744	€256	0.1%
Congenital or acquired lipodystrophy	Metreleptin	€480,000	€509,623	-€29,623	-6%

\*A positive difference indicates that actual prices are higher than break-even prices and a negative difference indicates that actual prices are lower than break-even prices.