

Attracting investments in European HealthTech leaders at the first HTID Conference in Paris – on June 24-25th

- *Europe plays a critical role in shaping up future medicine, drawing on the quality of its scientific research and thousands of innovative start-up companies.*
- *It is vital that European HealthTech firms gain access to more funding for their late-stage developments.*
- *HealthTech Investor Day (HTID) will connect European healthcare innovation leaders with major international investors and industrial groups.*

Paris, April 16, 2019 – Launched by France Biotech with the support of the European health innovation ecosystem, the first edition of the HealthTech Investor Day (HTID) forum will take place on June 24th and 25th in Paris. This event aims to attract investments in the 100 most mature and promising European HealthTech companies, including CureVac, Genfit, Nanobiotix, Bone Therapeutics or Pixium Vision.

“HTID is a new annual event intended to help innovative European healthcare companies finance the final stages of their development. Without this ‘second half of life’ financing, most of our companies will struggle to market their products and risk being forced to abandon their research, relocate or sell too early,” explained Maryvonne Hiance, Chairman of France Biotech.

Europe, at the forefront of health innovation

Europe offers incredible advantages when it comes to health innovation. Thanks to its dense network of medical research centers, universities and health clusters, it has turned into a huge laboratory shaping up the medicine of the future, which will soon be able to treat incurable diseases (Alzheimer's disease, some cancers, Parkinson's disease, etc.) and increase each and everyone's healthy life expectancy. To cope with new health concerns such as the aging world population, antimicrobial resistance, the rising cost of healthcare and the emergence of new diseases, Europe is actively involved in developing more effective innovative solutions.

“As scientific innovation increasingly goes hand in hand with technological innovation, many unimaginable therapeutic solutions are emerging and bringing new modes of treatment to patients. European innovative companies are at the forefront and must gain access to more capital to fund their projects and deliver on their promises,” said Pierre Kemula, CFO of CureVac, a German biotech company based on the breakthrough technology messenger RNA.



“Europe can count on a strong scientific sector and leading scientists, state-of-the-art medical and biotech companies, and a huge innovation reservoir. European biotech companies are a powerful magnet for international investors,” explained Thomas Lienard, Managing Director of Bone Therapeutics, a Belgian medtech company specializing in bone cell therapy.

Europe’s dynamism in health innovation translates into 3,000 biotech companies (source: EuropaBio) and more than 25,000 medical technology companies (source: Medtech Europe). The most mature companies among them have developed innovations with immense medical and economic potential, as reflected in the latest takeovers involving European HealthTech companies:

- in 2017, the Swiss biotech firm Actelion was bought by Johnson & Johnson, for € 27.9 billion, and the French medtech company AAA by Novartis, for € 3.3 billion;
- in 2018, the Belgian biotech companies Tigenix and Ablynx were bought by Taketa Pharmaceutical, for € 520 million, and by Sanofi, for € 3.9 billion, respectively.

At the end of 2018, 14 independent European biotech companies were valued at more than € 1 billion, according to the website LaBiotech.eu¹.

European HealthTech companies look for investments in a dynamic global market

In the past two years, investments in HealthTech companies around the world have been rising sharply. However, Europe has benefited only partially from this trend. In 2017, the global amount of funds raised in the HealthTech sector (via venture capital and IPOs) reached a record level of € 26 billion (source: EY). Of this total, only € 6.2 billion went to European companies, just under a third of the funds raised in the United States (€ 19.8 billion). US Health Tech companies are also benefiting from a large influx of Asian capital. According to the research firm Pitchbook (<https://techcrunch.com/2018/10/20/china-is-funding-the-future-of-american-biotech/>), Chinese investors took part in more than 300 American biotech fundraisers in 2018.

“At a similar level of development, a European HealthTech company will raise 2 to 3 times less funds than a US company. This is a huge obstacle in our development models, which are based on the sector’s specific needs of large and long-term investments,” said Franck Mouthon, Founder and CEO of Theranexus, a French biotech firm developing drug candidates to treat brain diseases.

In comparison with other industrial fields, the HealthTech sector stands out for its greater and more sustained financing needs. This is mainly due to the specific requirements surrounding health products (clinical trials, regulatory requirements, etc.). The development of a new drug, from an early stage to its market launch, lasts on average over 10 years. For medical devices, development times are shorter, usually between 3 and 7 years.

¹ <https://labiotech.eu/tops/billion-euro-european-biotech/>

Argenx (nl.), Autolus (UK), Cellectis (Fr), CureVac (All.), DBV Technologies (Fr.), Evotec (All.), Galapagos (Bel.), Genmab (Dk.), GW Pharmaceuticals (UK), Idorsia (Suisse), Immunocore (UK), Morphosys (All.), Orchard Therapeutics (UK), Oxford Nanopore (UK)

“In Europe, many venture capital funds specialize in early-stage financing and raising € 5 to € 20 million in Series A and B rounds is relatively common. But HealthTech companies are facing major difficulties when raising larger amounts. There is therefore a unique opportunity in Europe for late-stage investors, capable of investing tens of millions of euros,” said Cédric Moreau, Partner at Sofinnova Partners, a lead European investor in life sciences start-ups.

About HTID

For its first edition, the HTID conference, which will be held under the High Patronage of the French President and supported by the French Ministry of Economy and Finance, will take place over two days at the Peninsula Hotel, in Paris. HTID will facilitate one-on-one meetings between European health entrepreneurs, international investors and major industrial groups. To date, more than 50 investors have already announced their participation to HTID, including KKR & Co and OrbiMed, from the U.S., Fund+, from Belgium, and Cathay Capital, from China. These meetings will be held in Paris and, in some cases, via videoconference with New York and Shanghai.

Aside from these one-on-one meetings, the two-day event will also feature a dozen of plenary meetings on a variety of topics, ranging from European attractiveness, to new funding solutions for HealthTech companies, international best practices and the challenges of future medicine

HTID is different from other European events focused on early-stage financing, as it is intended to mature companies meeting the following criteria:

- To be an innovative HealthTech company (biotech, medtech, AI and e-health);
- Listed companies must have a market capitalization over € 20 million;
- Privately-held companies must have at least one drug candidate in a phase II clinical trial (biotech) or a device that has been granted CE marking in Europe or FDA approval in the U.S. (medtech).

The full program and schedule are available on the event’s website: www.htid-paris.com
Meetings will be open to the press. Accreditation requests should be sent via email to: francebiotech@alizerp.com.

About the HealthTech sector

The HealthTech revolution is multifaceted and stands at the crossroads of a large array of scientific and technological fields such as biotechnologies, artificial intelligence, nanoscience, the Internet of Things, robotics, digital technologies, genetics and 3D printing. Across Europe, companies are combining these technologies to develop the therapies of the future, which will mark the advent of personalized, preventive and predictive medicine.

About France Biotech

Created in 1997, France Biotech is a French nonprofit that brings together the country's leading innovative health companies and their expert partners (investors, lawyers, research institutes, clusters, etc.). Its core mission is to promote health innovation in France and help the sector’s start-up companies and SMEs to become successful organizations, capable of rapidly developing new therapeutic solutions. France Biotech is chaired by Maryvonne Hiance. www.france-biotech.fr

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This event has built up momentum and lined up strong support within the ecosystem.

- Partners -



- Support -





- Organizational support -



- Pharmaceutical companies taking part at the event -



To be continued ...