

# The Vaccine Continuum:

## from bench innovations to global impact

Join a half-day symposium and networking lunch on

**5 June, 09:00–13:00, at De Balie in Amsterdam**

Chair: Frank Cobelens

Limited in-person spots (80) with online access available



Increasing global, economic, and societal pressures are threatening the control of vaccine-preventable diseases. Supporting the entire vaccine pathway, from disease surveillance to vaccine development, implementation, and uptake depends on innovation and collaboration across multiple disciplines. This networking event supports a funding call aimed at advancing interdisciplinary approaches to vaccines: from bench innovations to global impact.

The event brings together researchers, policymakers, and public health professionals to discuss how scientific and methodological advances, EU and global regulation, and real-world safety and effectiveness data can support vaccines that are effective, acceptable, and accessible. The half-day symposium offers networking opportunities and insights into the full vaccine pathway, from lab discovery to equitable access in low- and middle-income countries.

The programme includes short talks on key stages of the vaccine continuum, a panel on collaboration opportunities and the upcoming funding call, and concludes with a networking lunch to foster new cross-sector partnerships.

### Programme

09:00 – 09:15	10:30 – 10:50 Break
Welcome & introduction to the upcoming grant opportunity	
09:15 – 09:40	10:50 – 11:15
A vaccine's journey from idea to impact – examples from tuberculosis vaccines <i>Elly van Riet</i>	Vaccine safety and implicit bias: how post-authorisation pharmacovigilance produces health (in)equity <i>Maurizia Mezza</i>
09:40 – 10:05	11:15 – 11:40
Challenging infectious diseases: accelerating vaccine development from tick vaccines to Lyme disease and beyond <i>Joppe Hovius</i>	Increasing vaccine uptake: bridging research and practice <i>Janneke Heijne</i>
10:05 – 10:30	11:40 – 12:20
From 'Lab to Job': How law governs vaccine innovation and access, and why we must research it <i>Katrina Perehudoff</i>	Panel discussion on collaboration and the upcoming grant opportunity
	12:20 – 13:00 Networking lunch

### Target audience & registration

Researchers, clinicians, policymakers, and public health professionals interested in vaccine development, regulation, safety, and implementation.

Participation is free, but registration is required due to limited in-person capacity.

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### Abstracts

#### **A vaccine's journey from idea to impact – examples from tuberculosis vaccines**

**Dr. Elly van Riet**

The journey from discovery via preclinical and clinical research to market access is a lengthy road full of challenges. These challenges span a large spectrum of expertises ranging from understanding host-pathogen interactions for guiding vaccine design to vaccine manufacturing and from vaccine formulation to quality control, to name a few. How to deal efficiently with these challenges? In the field of tuberculosis vaccine development no predictive animal models exist, there is no correlate of protection and on top of that, the funding has historically been low. Still, a lot of progress is made and this is strengthened by sharing lessons learnt, worldwide collaboration, and connecting vaccine development and implementation: the full development chain is only as strong as its weakest link.

#### **Challenging infectious diseases: accelerating vaccine development from tick vaccines to Lyme disease and beyond**

**Prof. J. Hovius**

This presentation will provide an overview of Controlled Human Infection Models (CHIMs) as innovative tools to accelerate vaccine research and development against infectious diseases. Prof. Dr. Joppe Hovius will highlight the development of a unique tick-based CHIM and its application in advancing our understanding of host-pathogen interactions relevant to Lyme disease. The talk will further explore how these models contribute to the development of next-generation Lyme disease vaccines and broader strategies for combating vector-borne infections.

#### **From 'Lab to Jab': How law governs vaccine innovation and access, and why we must research it**

**Dr. Katrina Perehudoff**

Vaccines do not move from lab to jab through science alone - law structures every stage of the vaccines lifecycle. Law and policy governing intellectual property, regulation, procurement/distribution, and international collaboration are structural determinants of vaccine innovation and access, shaping who benefits from scientific advances and who is left behind. An interdisciplinary research agenda at the intersection of law, epidemiology, and (global) public health is needed to promote universal vaccines access and health equity.

#### **Vaccine safety and implicit bias: how post-authorisation pharmacovigilance produces health (in)equity**

**Dr. Maurizia Mezza**

In this presentation, I examine how post-authorisation pharmacovigilance monitors vaccine safety after approval, and how health (in)equity is produced across different stages of passive surveillance. Drawing on ethnographic research on COVID-19 vaccines, I explore how these monitoring practices can be effective, yet also reproduce systemic biases, particularly when viewed through the lenses of gender and intersectionality. Finally, I argue that interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary collaboration offer key pathways for rethinking pharmacovigilance and advancing more equitable practices.

#### **Increasing Vaccine Uptake: Bridging Research and Practice**

**Dr. Janneke Heijne**

This talk focuses on the challenge of maintaining and improving vaccination coverage in Amsterdam. It will present examples from newly initiated and ongoing research at the GGD Amsterdam, including studies on estimating vaccine effectiveness (e.g. HPV), as well as research around the introduction of RSV immunisation and around adaptations in programmes such as maternal pertussis vaccination. The session will reflect on how changes in delivery, target groups, and communication influence vaccine uptake.

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