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Sanofi Vaccines R&D Day in Lyon

April 11th 2024

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*An event Sanofi dedicated to vaccine R&D,*

*in partnership with Lyonbiopôle Auvergne Rhône Alpes*

*and with the support of Enosis Santé.*

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# Event description and objectives:

 Sanofi is a global life sciences company committed to improving access to healthcare and supporting the people we serve across the care continuum.

The Vaccine world is evolving every year and Sanofi constantly needs to adapt to the world epidemiology and disease outbreaks and is consequently looking for new discoveries coming from universities and biotechs.

Through this event, Sanofi Vaccines business will present to the French/Auvergne Rhône Alpes (AURA) ecosystem its R&D strategy. The objective of this day is to offer attendees the opportunity to identify common objectives on which potential partnerships could be developed.

This event is a first step to learn more about the research carried out by Sanofi and the ecosystem. It will result in further discussions with Sanofi for partners with a common interest.

Sanofi is pleased to invite any academic researchers and biotechs R&D team member working on the 5 topics of interest.

Let’s explore together what would be the most relevant approaches to meet the challenges we commonly face.

# Program:

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| **8h30 – 9h30** | **Welcome coffee & opening** |
| **9h30 – 10h45** | **Presentation of Sanofi VRD strategy & Q&A** |
| 15 min break |
| **11h – 13h** | **Pitch session** |
| Lunch break |
| **14h15 – 17h15** | **Workshops on the 5 topics of interest** |
| **17h15 – 19h** | **Conclusion & cocktail** |

# Topics of interest:

The **Sanofi Vaccines R&D Day in Lyon** aims to scout for new innovations and technologies in 5 Big scientific areas:

1. **Development of antimicrobial approaches** using novel biological strategies (mAb, genetic engineered phages, etc).
	* In this area, we are looking for innovative projects using antibodies or modified or highly specific phages that can eliminate pathogens without disturbing healthy microbiome. We exclude natural phage therapy. We also look for alternative ways, e.g. microbiome gene editing, to eliminate microbial pathogens.

1. **Therapeutic vaccines/antibodies** (Allergy, autoimmune/chronic disease mainly using vaccines strategy, oncology and HIV are excluded). With chronic diseases, we are mainly interested on infectious agent causalities such as bacterial or latent viral chronic infection. Preventive or therapeutics approaches using one of these strategies:
	* Tolerogenic DC activation;
	* Regulatory T cells;
	* Autoimmune T and B cell regulation/suppression;
	* Neutralization of endogenous virus or bacteria mimicking a self-antigen.

1. **Mucosal** (oral, sublingual, intranasal) **or Skin vaccines delivery**
	* New vaccines platforms using mucosal delivery
	* New ways to cross the epithelial barriers to deliver vaccines to the MALT (Mucosal Associated Lymphoid Tissues)
	* New vaccine platforms using intradermal administration
2. **Immunology**
* Innovative Immunological assays (low volume, mucosal immunology, rapid, vaccine efficacy assessment, using supportive artificial intelligence tools)
* New Organ-on-Chip or Organoid system to assess immunological response (including blood-on-chip)
* Evaluation of immune activation in lymphoid tissues in large animals or human
* Exploring existing human clinical or epi cohorts for vaccinology research
* Innovative approaches **beyond immunology** to support exploratory immunology (technology coming from neuroscience field, oncology, vision biology, live imaging solutions, etc)
1. **Antigen design** – new methods for antigen discovery, optimization and characterization, supportive artificial intelligence tools
	* Rationale versus precision antigen design
	* Native versus *de novo* antigen design
	* Impact on glycosylation on antigen design for bacterial and viral targets
	* New *in silico* tools for vaccine candidate selection and optimal antigen design/prediction value
	* Build on “Smart RNA vaccines” with highly regulated & cell-specific expression

# Pitch application:

The pitches allow projects to be presented in more depth. This is an opportunity to have dedicated speaking time with an informed audience and to promote the research carried out by innovators in France.

For Sanofi, this is a privileged moment to identify potential connections between projects and their internal R&D strategy, with an ambition to initiate exchanges in the event of mutual interests.

# Selection criteria:

Please note that the number of pitches is limited. Applications will be selected based on the criteria listed below:

* Excellence and innovation potential: scientific and technological excellence, clarity and relevance of objectives.
* Impact: the results of the idea would contribute to at least one of the 5 topics of interest.
* Strategic alignment: The idea is aligned with Sanofi's R&D strategy in the field of vaccines.

We hope that you will be many to propose 10 min business pitches in these areas. This Call for Manifestation of Interest (AMI) has the goal to invite academic innovators and early stage biotechs.

Welcome to the Innovators!

Reference:

<https://www.sanofi.com/en/partnering/partnering-focus-areas/vaccines>

# Calendar:

Application submission period: before **January 15**.

Response to your application: before **February 15.**

Date of the event: ***11th April 2024.***

*We inform you that for reasons of space* ***we limit the number of attendees to 120.***

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| **Sanofi Vaccines R&D Day in Lyon** |
| **General guidelines**Pitch applications must be submitted in this form and follow these general guidelines:* \*Indicates the section obligations
* The form must not contain any confidential information
* Each frame length and words/characters number restrictions must be observed.

Please note that the form that does not fit the guidelines will not be evaluated and out-of-scope projects will not be considered. |
| *Send the completed form to:* SanofiVaccinesRDDayinLyon@sanofi.com |
| **Contact information** |
| **First name\*** |  |
| **Last name\*** |  |
| **Structure\*** |  |
| **Position\*** |  |
| **Email\*** |  |
| **Phone\*** |  |
| **Pitch** |
| **Topic\*:** Please check the good topic (possibility of choosing several topics) |
| [ ]  Immunology[ ]  Development of antimicrobial approaches​​[ ]  Antigen design[ ]  Therapeutic vaccines/antibodies [ ]  Mucosal or Skin vaccines delivery |
| **Project title\*** |  |
| **Project description\*:** Please provide a brief description of your project and its link to the relevant topic. *1 500 words maximum for all the categories below*  |
|  |
| **Innovative aspect\*:** Please explain how your project is scientifically and/or technically innovative. |
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| **Proof of concept\*:** Please explain your preliminary results or your proposed workplan. |
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| **Link to publications or other bibliography and appendices** |
|  |
| **Other information** |
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