



Connecting Life Sciences

# LISAvienna Highlights

Spring & Summer 2023

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# **Austrian Life Science Day and ViennaUP**

LISAvienna is happy to organize the first Austrian Life Science Day in Vienna. The day is dedicated to presentations and discussions on the current situation and the future of precision medicine in Austria, funding opportunities, and networking with peers and key opinion leaders. In addition, we are on board at the festival ViennaUP.

We thank LISA - Life Science Austria and the Austrian Research Promotion Agency FFG for launching the the Austrian Life Science Day, the Austrian Platform for Personalized Medicine ÖPPM for collaborating with us on setting up the program and ecoplus for hosting the green event at the prestigious Palais Niederösterreich. By providing this prime meeting place for professionals we facilitate the exchange of knowledge. This ranks high on our agenda and motivates us to also connect people at many other occasions. Powered by the Vienna Business Agency, the ViennaUP startup festival is a great example of bringing potential partners together by including dozens of events hosted by key players in the local startup community. Join us in Vienna to meet peers, potential partners and investors.

# **Health Innovation Summit Vienna**

LISAvienna is adding value to the Health Innovation Summit Vienna which is part of ViennaUP by organizing a special session with EIT Health Austria: Expect a reality check on new digital health solutions and development projects.

See page three for further details.





# **Dear readers!**

We had a wonderful start into this year at BIO-Europe Spring. Some 40 drug developers, innovative service providers and other organizations relevant for boosting the biotech business participated in the joint LISA – Life Science Austria booth we organized in Basel. This is a vivid sign that the regional life sciences sector is in good shape and - as several newly founded start-ups were on board - also highly dynamic. This edition of our Highlights folder is not only dedicated to a brief review of some of the success stories of the last few months, as well as updating you on the very first Austrian Life Science Day on May 9, 2023, in Vienna.

Young entrepreneurs who had the chance to participate in the Boehringer Ingelheim Office Hours in March, or Takeda's R&D Science Day in Vienna in April clearly appreciated the feedback and inspirations they were offered. These events were important steps towards making new developments fit for the market. All in all, they are speeding up innovation processes and making them more sustainable. Later this year, we will cooperate with Roche on a similar event. Subscribe to our mailings lists online or follow LISAvienna on LinkedIn and Twitter to stay up to date on this and other opportunities to foster your business.

We are looking forward to meeting you at upcoming events and invite you to reach out to us and our team for advice.

Johannes Sarx and Philipp Hainzl LISAvienna Executive Board

# LISAvienna life science austria









#### + + + Trade shows and conferences + + +

dHealth

Vienna, May 16-17, 2023 **The MedTech Forum**Dublin, May 30 – June 1, 2023 **BIO-Europe**Munich, November 6-8, 2023 **MEDICA**Düsseldorf, November 13-16, 2023

A MEMBER OF

# <sup>OF</sup> LISA 🕇 LIFE SCIENCE AUSTRIA



#### + + + Join us at these events in Austria + + +

Austrian Life Science Day
Vienna, May 9, 2023
ViennaUP: Health Innovation Summit Vienna
Vienna, June 6, 2023
LISAvienna Regulatory Conference
Vienna, October 17, 2023

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# Funding opportunities for life science innovations

Austria supplements funding opportunities available at EU level and regional support confers additional strategic advantage to Vienna's life sciences community. LISAvienna is happy to advise you on how to get started on your ideal combination of funding sources to help you with developing your idea towards market.

Vienna Business Agency Call for R&D projects: Tech4People

€3 million for putting human beings center-stage when developing digital solutions www.viennabusinessagency.at

FFG: Austrian Life Sciences Program

€11.5 million invested in 11 projects in 2022, plus €40 million available in 2023 www.ffg.at/ausschreibung/ AustrianLifeSciences-2023 aws: Digital Health Innovation

Extra funds for supporting digital health start-ups in Austria are available through aws Seed-financing Deep Tech www.aws.at/aws-seedfinancing-deep-tech

Tip: Go to <u>www.lisavienna.at/funding/open-calls-deadlines</u> for a broad overview of open calls and deadlines for submitting proposals for projects strengthening your pipeline.

## **Continuation from page 1**

**Austrian Life Science Day 2023** 

May 9, 2023

"Innovations in Precision Medicine"

### **Topics:**

- Academic research, clinical studies and advanced education
- Innovations "Made in Austria": Start-ups, SMEs and global players
- Funding opportunities to transform research findings into benefits for patients

www.lisavienna.at

**ViennaUP: Health Innovation Summit Vienna** June 6, 2023

"Digital Health - Vision and Reality"

### **Topics:**

- From trends and visions to the bedside what is and what could be done?
- Reality check of new digital health solutions and development projects
- Innovation how does it work and how can we make it happen?

healthhubvienna.at/summit

Meet start-ups, enterprises, research institutions, representatives from funding agencies, clusters and other stakeholders actively advancing the highly dynamic and growing life sciences sector in Austria. Events like these encourage changing perspectives. They always are eye-openers and by ground new ideas so that they can be turned into reality. If lessons learned are seriously considered and, when indicated, rigorously applied they can advance and reshape existing trajectories to make innovation processes more sustainable.

Tip: Screen <u>www.lisavienna.at/events</u> for occasions to broaden your view, we also list trainings organized by business associations, or conferences.

# Bulletin Board

MedUni Vienna to present details on the planned Centre for Translational Medicine: About 14,000m² are dedicated to lab space, a GMP facility for cell therapy, radio-pharmacy and biologicals, core facilities including a probationary station, an animal facility with preclinical imaging and a biobank, as well as a clinical center for phase I and II studies

Boehringer Ingelheim constructing a cancer research facility in Vienna on schedule: €60 million investment for a green building



Takeda unveils first industrial application of natural gas-free steam generation in the pharmaceutical industry in partnership with the Austrian government and AIT Austrian Institute of Technology



Highly successful Boehringer Ingelheim "Office Hours" in Vienna on March 7, 2023: Participants highly appreciated this fantastic mentoring

opportunity and particularly valued the fair and balanced

# **BIO-Europe Spring 2023**

We organized the LISA - Life Science Austria booth in Basel featuring some 40 drug developers, services providers and other professional organizations serving the biotech business. We attracted many visitors and in this way added great networking opportunities to our community members' meeting schedules. Together, we created for a vivid signal that the regional life sciences sector is in good shape and - as several newly founded start-ups were on board at the booth - also highly dynamic and growing.



FWF to invest €21 million in a new Cluster of Excellence "Microbiomes **Drive Planetary Health**"



**International Vaccine** Institute (IVI) opened an office in Vienna



# Life sciences companies found in Vienna in 2022

- Aspire Innova GmbH
- breathe ilo GmbH
- Brightmind.Al GmbH
- CompreVie In Vitro Diagnostics GmbH
- Holloid GmbH
- Impairment Analytics DH2S GmbH
- NanoVoxel GmbH
- psimistri GmbH
- VERDI Solutions GmbH
- YGION Biomedical GmbH
- 1BillionLives GmbH

7Drops GmbH

This list is not exhaustive.

Ribbon Biolabs reaches key milestone with the automation of their DNA synthesis platform for commercial entry, and is one of the Austrian Economic Chambers' 15 "Born Global Champions 2022"



Valneva's live-attenuated, single-dose vaccine candidate against the chikungunya virus: Regulatory review process at FDA is underway

Contextflow: new feature to bolster its ADVANCE Chest CT software that now automatically detects, quantifies and visualizes 8 disease patterns including lung nodules

ImageBiopsy Lab: Al diagnosis of hip misalignments proves reliable, fast and cost efficient in an international validation study



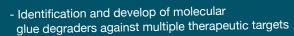


# Flinn Comply by 1BillionLives GmbH

announces they have raised €1.8 million in a pre-seed round to accelerate EU medical compliance times by means of digitalization and automation



# Proxygen announces collaboration and license agreement with MSD



- Upfront payment, milestone payments of up to \$2.55 billion, royalties

www.proxygen.com



Lithoz: Premiere of 3D-printed lithium disilicate restorations, jointly developed with Ivoclar, and further groundbreaking dental applications including bioresorbable jawbones (hydroxy apatite or tricalcium phosphate) and additively serially manufactured dental implants made of zirconia (TZP-A) or alumina-toughened zirconia (ATZ)





**Austrian Academy of** Sciences to celebrate the 20th anniversary of its Institute of Molecular Biotechnology IMBA with a series of events under the umbrella "Exploring the Unknown: Our Passion, Our Future"

**Hookipa and Roche** collaborate on an immunotherapy for KRAS-mutated cancers: In February 2023, HOOKIPA achieved a \$10 million milestone payment, which represents the start of the manufacturing process to support a Phase 1 clinical trial.



#### **EIC Accelerator to support Brainhero**

€2.5 million to further advance home-based neurofeedback therapy for playfully training brains to help alleviate and/or treat symptoms of ASD and ADHS

# QMD Services: New Notified Body opened its doors in Vienna

Austria is now home to a Notified Body for in vitro diagnostic devices. After more than three years in preparation, QMD Services obtained designation as a European conformity assessment body according to the European Union's 2017/746 In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Device Regulation (IVDR). This was facilitated by Quality Austria in collaboration with the regional governments in Vienna, Upper Austria, Lower Austria, Styria, and Tyrol.

QMD Services, a subsidiary of Quality Austria, filed an application for designation in October 2019. The company then went through a complex designation process led by the national competent authority and the EU Commission. Following successful listing on NANDO on December 23, 2022, QMD Services is now entitled to carry out conformity assessment activities (CE marking) for in vitro diagnostic devices (IVD). This means that European manufacturers for IVDs such as tests on blood or urine samples, pregnancy tests, blood sugar tests or COVID-19 tests, etc. can now get certified in Austria. The company is also going

through a similar designation process under EU's Medical Device Regulation 2017/745 (MDR) for general medical devices and hopes to receive designation over this year.

#### Offices in Vienna and Linz

QMD Services is headquartered in Vienna and has a subsidiary in Linz. The Notified Body has access to an international team with many years of experience in the industrial and healthcare sectors. QMD Services also benefits from the long-standing experience of Quality Austria in the field of ISO 13485 quality management certification for medical devices.

# **Availability versus safety**

IVDR is designed to increase patient safety. As EU requirements have become more stringent, the number of devices subject to conformity assessment by a Notified Body has increased significantly. This changed legal framework has led to longer development times and higher costs for all manufacturers of IVDs and some products have already disappeared from the market. It has also modified the criteria used for the conformity assessment bodies. All over Europe, no more than ten bodies are currently available for assessing the conformity of IVDs, which is a prerequisite for market entry in the EU. However, designations during the last few months, prolonged transition periods and additional measures have been taken to avoid further shortages of IVDs and medical devices.

www.qmdservices.com

# Why Vienna?

While the service and operations center of QMD is located in Linz, Vienna is the optimal geostrategic location for a European conformity assessment business.



Although most of our business is based on digital communication technologies, QMD's HQ in Vienna can offer all the amenities of a global business metropole. Manufacturers from all continents who intend to market their medical devices and IVDs in the EU internal market (including Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Turkey) thus have good access to our young business.

Anni Koubek, CEO of QMD Services

# Joining forces on new technologies to develop strategically relevant solutions

Austria's national COMET program is an internationally recognized best-practice model for cutting-edge research to provide solutions for today's main societal and economic challenges from climate protection to health issues. The Vienna Business Agency encourages filing applications at FFG and provides co-funding. Reach out to LISAvienna to explore opportunities and to get connected. The next call for COMET centers is about to open and the deadline to submit proposals is scheduled for November 23, 2023. Get inspired by the centers we introduce here or consider joining them as a partner in the future.



acib – Austrian Centre of Industrial Biotechnology acib.at



CBmed – Center for Biomarker Research in Medicine

www.cbmed.at



VASCage – Centre on Clinical Stroke Research

www.vascage.at

**acib** is an international center of excellence in the field of industrial biotechnology. It develops sustainable, environmentally friendly, and economically and technically advanced processes for the biotech, pharmaceutical and chemical industries. It takes nature's methods and tools as its model. Within its partner network, acib cooperates with industry to transfer scientific results into efficient processes and innovative products - always for the benefit of humans, animals, and the environment. acib was founded in 2010. Its 150 researchers based in Graz, Innsbruck, Tulln and Vienna are working on more than 90 industrial and strategic research projects.

**CBmed** focuses on biomarker research and links excellent infrastructure, scientific expertise, and medical knowledge with national and international industry partners. CBmed is also embedded into a strong network including Biobank Graz and is a member of the European Biobanking network BBMRI-ERIC. CBmed's scientists in Graz and Vienna conduct research to identify potential new biomarkers, to validate them and to translate the findings into products to be used in clinical practice. CBmed offers a varied portfolio of contract research providing customed solutions for partners. CBmed also is focusing intensly on the influence of micro-nano particles on human health in the COMET Module micrioONE.

VASCage - Centre on Clinical Stroke Research combines experimental and epidemiological efforts for prevention, diagnosis, therapy and rehabilitation of stroke. It is embedded in a transdisciplinary environment and develops innovative products, therapies and technologies, and implements and integrates them into routine patient care. VASCage has assembled a strong team of 56 employees, and serves 15 scientific partners, 31 research-oriented companies, and 29 associated partners. It manages and supports the conduct of national and international clinical trials for academia and industry. Another €18 million had been invested in VASCage by the end of 2022.

For additional information on COMET, please go to www.ffg.at/comet

# Austria contributes to strategically developing and applying biological knowledge for saving the planet

We need to act now and fast to preserve the basis of life on Earth. Austria's life sciences community strives to take on its share of responsibility and engages in this endeavor in many ways. The regional bioeconomy network is brimming with new ideas giving rise to innovative projects and start-ups that contribute to greening the economy. Preconditions in Austria are great as there is a strong societal awareness of nature's importance, willingness to break new ground and there are unused natural resources to draw from.



acib, BOKU, GMI, TU Wien and the University of Vienna all play a key role in research driving bioeconomy and have strengthened their ties to big players and SMEs in sectors such as agriculture, forestry and the chemical and textile industries. Through spin-off projects, they also strive to provide solutions to pressing problems such as those discussed in Austria's Bioeconomy Action Plan launched in 2022.

### A few names to remember

**alchemia-nova:** Interdisciplinary institute for circular economy and nature-based solutions for households, communities and at national level

**Blue Planet Ecosystems:** Focus on turning sunlight into seafood by replicating aquatic ecosystems in closed units without connection to the sea

**Evologic Technologies:** TU Wien spin-off, helps overcome challenges linked to turning microorganisms into active ingredients, e.g. for cosmetics and agriculture

**Livin Farms:** Highly scalable, modular and fully automated factory to upcycle industrial food waste into insect protein feed and fertilizers

**Vienna Textile Lab:** Startup creating biogenic dyes for textiles from naturally occurring microorganisms to make the fashion industry more sustainable

# Arkeon: Turning CO, into protein

Austria-based ingredients start-up Arkeon leverages the power of ancient microbes to convert CO₂ into next-generation protein ingredients. The company's proprietary technology is a new and innovative approach to producing amino acids and functional peptides for food and lifestyle products. This approach is the basis of a regenerative way to nourish people on a global scale. The BOKU spin-off recently has raised another €4 million to do more and accelerate its operations.

### arkeon.bio

