Newsletter - September 2020

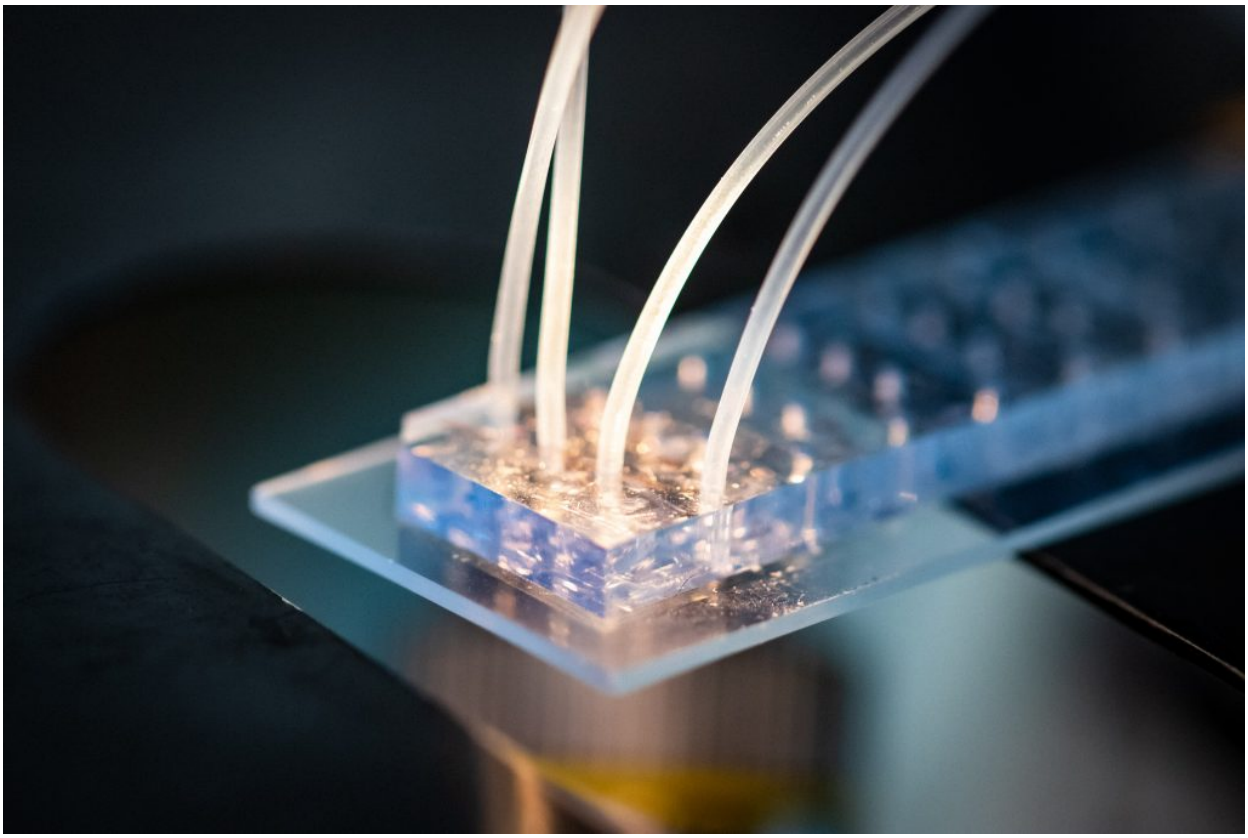
Dear friends, dear LifeTimers,

Together we have reached some important milestones recently. We publicly launched the ***LifeTime Strategic Research Agenda (SRA)***, a comprehensive document laying out a decadal plan for the implementation of interceptive medicine. At the same time, we published the ***LifeTime Perspective article in Nature***. It describes how to leverage the latest scientific breakthroughs to track, understand and treat human cells throughout an individual's lifetime. Please find both documents below.

To herald the post-preparatory phase, LifeTime has launched a ***new website***. We hope you like the new design. Check out our news section for any updates on the initiative. Importantly, to keep receiving this newsletter and continue being part of our community, please sign up ***here***. Our goal is to create an active space where all stakeholders (e.g. scientists, industry partners, research funders, patient organisations, citizens, policy makers and healthcare professionals) can find and share relevant information and easily connect with each other.

In this spirit, let us take the opportunity to draw your attention to the upcoming first edition of the ***virtual conference Emerging technologies in Single Cell research***, jointly organised by VIB and LifeTime, which will take place on 19-20 November 2020.

Thank you all for your continued support. Every step brings us closer to achieving our ambitious plan of improving European healthcare through cell-based interceptive medicine. We hope you will stay with us on this journey!



Improving European healthcare through cell-based interceptive medicine

Hundreds of innovators, research pioneers, clinicians, industry leaders and policy makers from all around Europe are united by a vision of how to revolutionize healthcare. In the perspective article in the journal Nature, they now present a detailed roadmap of how to leverage the latest scientific breakthroughs and technologies over the next decade, to track, understand and treat human cells throughout an individual's lifetime.

The LifeTime initiative, coordinated by Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine in Berlin and Institut Curie in Paris, has developed a strategy to advance personalised treatment for five major disease classes: cancer, neurological-, infectious-, chronic inflammatory- and cardiovascular diseases. The aim is a new age of personalised, cell-based interceptive medicine for Europe with the potential of improved health outcomes and more cost-effective treatment, resulting in profoundly changeing a person's healthcare experience.

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LifeTime Strategic Research Agenda

The LifeTime Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) provides a roadmap for implementing cell-based medicine in Europe within the next decade. It is the combined vision of more than 100 institutions and medical centres, 80 companies and is supported by patient organisations as well as prestigious European scientific societies and research funding organisations. The SRA recommends significant investment in research and infrastructure programmes to address key clinical challenges and drive the transition to cell-based and patient-centred European healthcare. Implementing the proposed Science and Technology Roadmap will enable earlier detection and effective therapeutic treatment of diseases to improve the quality of life of European citizens, stimulate the European economy and ensure Europe as a leader in the cell-based interceptive medicine of the future.

Read the LifeTime SRA

Thinking “ethical” when designing an international, cross-disciplinary biomedical research consortium

Understanding and measuring the impact of decisions in research, or the implementation of a research project and new technologies is not straightforward. While research communities have become increasingly aware of the ethical, social and legal implications of the research they conduct, it is more challenging to anticipate such consequences arising from complex, highly interdisciplinary research projects involving multiple sides and technological components. Thus, there is a strong need, especially given the rapid rate of technological advancement, to anticipate, prepare and implement measures that enable responsible research. This challenge is particularly important when designing research programmes involving large-scale consortia as the European LifeTime initiative spanning multiple countries and institutions.

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Biomedical research is at a turning point. Single cell technologies are opening extraordinary opportunities to address today's medical challenges. These new tools will enhance our molecular understanding of functional cell states. They will give us major insights into when, how and why diseases of all kinds arise. At Emerging Technologies in Single Cell research, a two-day virtual conference, VIB and LifeTime will bring together top researchers in the fields of multi-omics and artificial intelligence.

Submit your abstract for this event

Abstracts will be designated for e-poster presentations. You can submit an abstract for a poster and/or oral presentation. You do not have to register before submitting your abstract.
Abstract submission closing date: Thursday, 17 September 2020

Read more

Join the LifeTime Community

With the end of the preparatory action supported by the Horizon 2020 grant, we are updating our contact lists and building a new platform for the community. If you wish to keep receiving updates about LifeTime please sign up on our new website, if you have not already done so.

Sign up here

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