

Pharmabiotics 2026
Conference & Partnering
Brussels, Belgium 3-5 February




Pharmabiotic
Research Institute

The Pharmabiotic Research Institute is delighted to invite you to join us for the 2026 edition of the Pharmabiotics Conference, the Microbiome **Conference of Development & Regulation (D&R)**, taking place in Brussels on February 3-5, 2026.

Now in its 10th edition, Pharmabiotics is one of **Europe's oldest and most established microbiome meetings**. Over more than a decade, it has earned trust by **centering development and regulation**, and by **turning real regulatory journeys into practical case studies that move the field forward**.

Four **D**'s, one **R**:

- **Development**: Translating microbiome science into real-world products.
- **Direction**: Offering **Regulatory** compass points in a space that still lacks official guidelines.
- **Dialogue**: A unique platform where researchers, developers, regulators, and industry share their journeys. The conference fosters peer-to-peer exchange while also opening direct dialogue with those writing, interpreting, and implementing the rules that will define the next chapter of microbiome innovation.
- **Disruption**: Showcasing how microbiome science is reshaping health, food systems, and sustainability.

Behind the conference stands the **Pharmabiotic Research Institute (PRI)**, Europe's Microbiome Regulatory Science Center. PRI is an independent non profit, recognized as a stakeholder with key EU institutions, and supported by the largest microbiome network in Europe.

What sets Pharmabiotics apart is its focus on regulatory case studies. Faced with guidelines that are limited, outdated, and not designed for a paradigm-shifting field like the microbiome, the conference creates a space where researchers and developers share how they have navigated classification issues, engaged with regulators, and adapted their development pipelines.

Continuing its tradition of excellence, the 2026 programme will dive into the critical challenges and transformative opportunities shaping the future of microbiome science, clinical application, and innovation.

The programme is built around four core themes:

- **Microbiome-based biomarkers, testing, and diagnostics.**
- **Microbiome innovation within the One Health concept**, expanding applications beyond human health.
- **Regulatory assessment and developments** impacting microbiome research and innovation.
- **Advances in clinical data & emerging technologies** in microbiome research.

“*The Pharmabiotics Conference has firmly established itself as the key rendezvous for microbiome development and regulation in Europe. For anyone committed to advancing the field, this is where you come to understand the next frontier, and help shape it.*”—
Eleni Tsompanidou, Head of Microbial Discovery and Development at Winlove Probiotics, and President of the Pharmabiotic Research Institute.

Register now: www.pharmabioticsevent.com

To highlight **PRI's European identity**, the 10th edition will take place in **Brussels**, the heart of Europe. This symbolic location underscores **PRI's commitment to shaping the microbiome field within the European context**, while fostering international dialogue and collaboration.



Pharmabiotics 2026
Conference & Partnering
Brussels, Belgium 3-5 February




**Pharmabiotic
Research Institute**

Pharmabiotics: the microbiome **Conference of D&R** (**development** and **regulation**)

Preliminary programme

Day 1 - February 3rd

Morning session (PRI Members Only)

10:00–12:30 | Yearly regulatory science roundup – Key updates and perspectives on the evolving regulatory landscape (📍 *Cardo Hotel, Terra 1+2*).

12:30–13:30 | Networking Lunch – An opportunity to connect with fellow PRI members ahead of the main conference programme (📍 *Cardo Hotel, Gritto Restaurant*).

Afternoon | 14:00 | Conference kick-off (📍 *Forum Ballroom 2*)

Opening remarks by Eleni Tsompanidou Head of Microbial Discovery and Development at Winclove Probiotics & PRI President

Session 1: Microbiome-based biomarkers; Microbiome testing and diagnostics (📍 *Forum Ballroom 2*)
Moderated by Dr. Héloïse Breton, Director, Product management DNA Genotek.

- Microbiome biomarkers in Europe: From expert consensus to regulatory implementation (**Dr. Julie Rodriguez, Inserm**)
- Bacterial markers and immune checkpoint inhibitors (ICI) for oncology treatment (**Dr. Lisa Derosa, Institut Gustave Roussy**)
- In vitro diagnostics predicting the response to cancer immunotherapies thanks to a microbiome biomarker (**Dr. Etienne Formstecher, GMT Science**)
- Standardizing the gut microbiome testing: challenges and opportunities & Key results from FMT TACITO TRIAL (**Dr. William Fusco, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome**)
- Mapping microbial lineages: Analytical tools shaping the future of microbiome biomarkers (**Dr. Francesco Asnicar, Researcher at Department CIBIO, University of Trento**)
- Non-invasive diagnostics and the power of the vaginal microbiome: gynecological care and reproductive health (**Dr. Marta Ciechońska, Salient Bio**)

Q&A session - Panel discussion (Chaired by **David Suissa, CEO Byome Labs**, Sponsor)

Evening | Welcome apéritif & networking + Poster Session (📍 *Forum Ballroom Foyer*)

Day 2 - February 4th

Morning | Session 2: Microbiome innovation within the One Health concept, expanding microbiome application beyond human health (📍 Forum Ballroom 2)

Moderated by Dr. Sandrine Claus, CEO of Starfish Bioscience.

- Beyond Earth: Microbiome research for space missions and planetary health (**Dr. Rodrigo Coutinho, European Space Agency (ESA) - Telespazio**)
- Precision Probiotics for PFAS removal from the human body (**Dr. Anna E. Lindell, Cambiotics**)
- Biocontrol or biostimulant? How classification shapes Innovation (**Geoffroy Moulin, Staphyt**)
- From the ecology and functions to regulatory aspects of the plant microbiome in the agrifood system (**Dr. Angela Sessitsch**)
- Roadmap for the integration of gastrointestinal (GI) microbiomes (human and domesticated animal) into risk assessments under EFSA's remit (**Dr. F. Javier Moreno, Spanish National Research Council, CSIC**)
- **Q&A session** - Panel discussion

2026 Featured session | Next Colony: Space.

How can space boost microbiome-based innovation, and how can microbiome innovations drive space exploration? (📍 Forum Ballroom 2)

Moderated by Dr. Christian Roghi, Founder Big Bold Bridges Consulting & Dr. Pierre Burguière, Strategic Senior Advisor, US Pharmacopeia Microbiome Expert.

Join Dr Roghi and Dr Burguière for an in-depth conversation with Dr. **Jessica Studer**, Medical Expert at **MEDES** (Institute for Space Medicine and Physiology) and former Research Physician at **ESA**, Dr. **Rodrigo Coutinho de Almeida**, Science Coordinator at **ESA**, **Audrey Berthier**, Executive Director at **MEDES** and Dr. Natalie Leys, Space Life Science Research program at SCK CEN (**Belgian Nuclear Research Centre**)

Afternoon | Session 3: Microbiome in regulatory assessment and regulatory developments impacting microbiome R&D (📍 Forum Ballroom 2)

Moderated by Dr. Gianfranco Grompone, Chief Scientific Officer at BioGaia AB (Sponsor 2026).

- EFSA's microbiome science initiative (**Dr. Konstantinos Paraskevopoulos, EFSA**)
- Integrating environmental microbiome data into EFSA risk assessment (**Dr. Frédéric Debode, Walloon Agricultural Research Centre**)
- SoHO Regulation and the Microbiome: What's at stake, and where we go next (**Dr. Céline Druart, PRI**)
- European network for implementation of the SoHO regulation: the Harmonize project and its current progress (**Dr. Lena Biehl, Fraunhofer Institute for Translational Medicine and Pharmacology Frankfurt University of Cologne, Köln**)
- The EDQM guide on Tissue and Cells and the SoHO regulation: enabling FMT as new treatment strategy in Medicine (**Dr. Josbert Keller, Haaglanden Medical Center**)
- Regulatory Perspectives on the Non-Clinical Assessment of Microbiome-Based Medicinal Products (**Dr. Violaine François, Non-clinical Assessor, Federal Agency for Medicines and Health Products**)
- SoHO Regulation in Practice: Updates on Implementation, GDPR and Clinical Trials (**Rita Piteira, Policy Officer, DG Santé**)
- **Q&A session** - Panel discussion

Evening | Dinner at Wolf Sharing Food Market, 📍 Brussels city centre.

Day 3 - February 5th

Session 4: Microbiome Innovation: Advances in Clinical Data & Emerging Technologies (📍 Forum Ballroom 2)

Moderated by Dr. Christian Rogui, Consultant & Founder Big Bold Bridges Consulting

- EXL01: A Novel single-strain live biotherapeutic for macrophages modulation - Early clinical data and mechanism of action revealed (**Benjamin Hadida, Exeliom Biosciences**)
- Precision microbiome medicines for immuno-oncology and inflammatory bowel disease (**Dr. Adam Wilkinson, Microbiotica**)
- Synbiotics and infant colic: Clinical trial results (**Dr. Hanne Delcourt, UZ Brussel**)
- Smart Skin Bio-Devices: A next-generation platform for skin therapeutics (**Dr. Maria Jose Fabrega, Synflora**)
- Spatially and Temporally Precise Multi-Omic Sampling of the Small Intestine using SIMBA capsules in Observational and Interventional Studies (**Dr. Sabina Bruehlmann, Nimble Science CEO**)
- Microbiome science as a tool for safer therapeutics and food: where are we in 2025? (**David de Gruijl, Co-founder, Anto Biosciences**)
- Decoding Autism: Multi-Omics and AI insights into the gut-brain axis (**Dr. Jamie Morton, Gutz Analytics**)
- Cognitive and mood benefits of multistrain Probiotics in healthy older adults: Evidence from a randomized controlled trial (**Dr. Daniel Lamport, Associate Professor, School of Psychology & Clinical Language Sciences, University of Reading**)
- **Q&A session** - Panel discussion

Poster Session Awards - Closing remarks (📍 Forum Ballroom 2)

Hosted by **Dr. Amine Zorgani**, Founder & CEO, **SwipeBiome**, Founder of *The Microbiome Mavericks*

14:00 | Lunch - Conference ends

Register now: Be part of the **10th Pharmabiotics Conference**, the **Conference of Development & Regulation** of the Microbiome. **February 3–5, 2026, Brussels, Belgium**

Join leaders from research, industry, and regulation for **three days dedicated to turning discovery into development** and **navigating regulatory pathways** in a field where frameworks remain limited and evolving.

Through **real-world case studies** and **cross-disciplinary dialogue**, the conference offers **practical insights you won't find elsewhere**, showing how regulatory journeys shape microbiome innovations across health, food, and sustainability.

With the valued support of our sponsors and media partners



Contact us

Have questions about registration, sponsorship, or participation?

Reach out directly to our team:

- **Camille Bello** – camille@pharmabiotic.org
- **Céline Druart** – celine@pharmabiotic.org

Stay up to date: www.pharmabioticsevent.com

