




Funded by
the European Union



European
Reference
Network

for rare or low prevalence
complex diseases

 Network
Neuromuscular
Diseases (ERN EURO-NMD)

8th ERN EURO-NMD Annual Meeting

FSHD Europe & FSHD European Trial Network (ETN)

5th – 7th March 2025

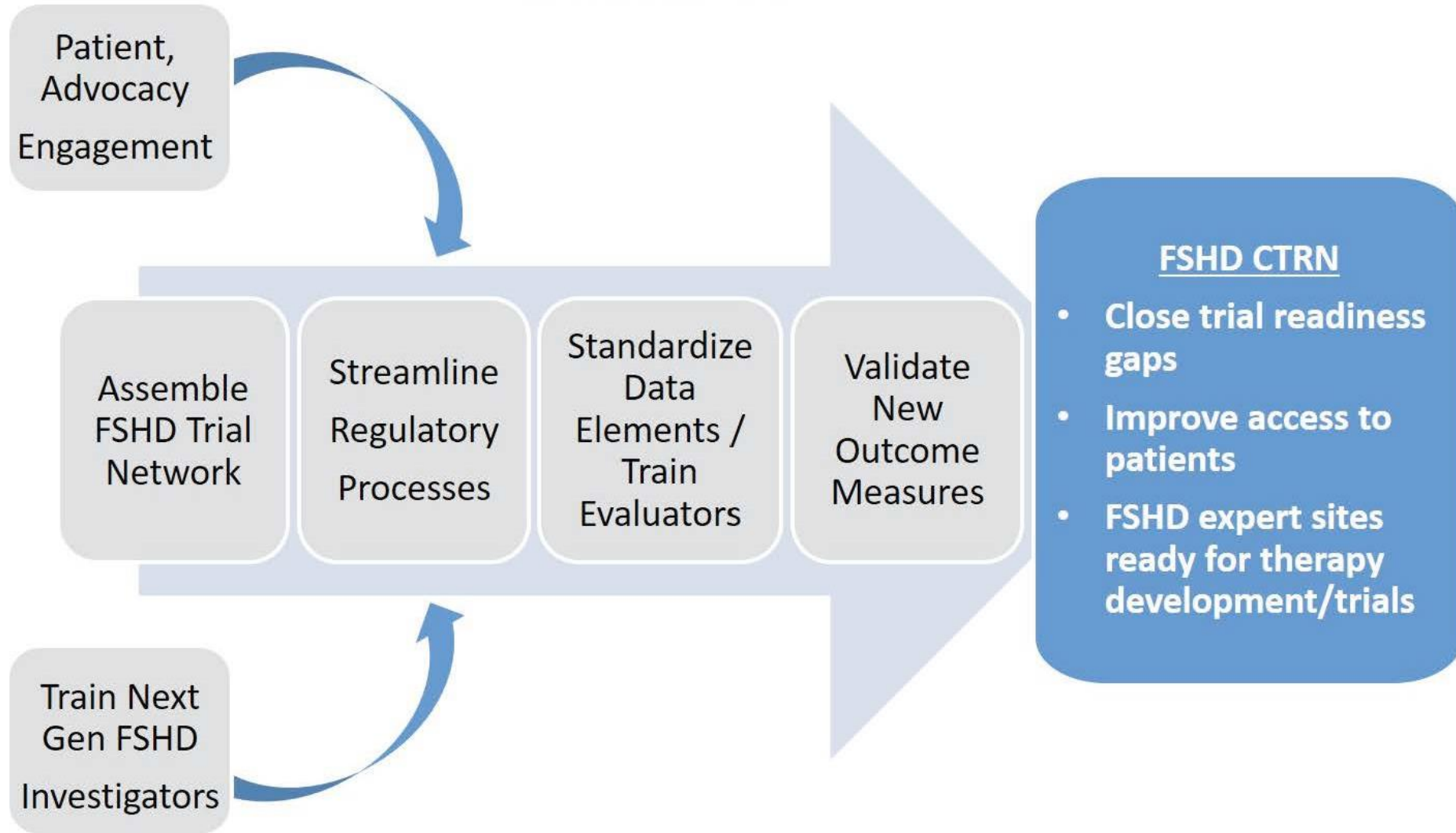
Nicol Voermans & Ria de Haas
Radboudumc, Nijmegen, The Netherlands

FSHD Europe started



*'A united, consistent patient voice
for FSHD in Europe'*

FSHD Society's steps forward



Europe



- 748 million inhabitants (11 % world populations)
- FSHD prevalence rate 12/100,000 (NI)
→ 90,000 European FSHD patients
- 44 Countries
- 27 EU partners
- 200 Languages (24 official)

Europe



© Vemaps.com

EUROPEAN
NEURO
MUSCULAR
CENTRE



European
Reference
Network

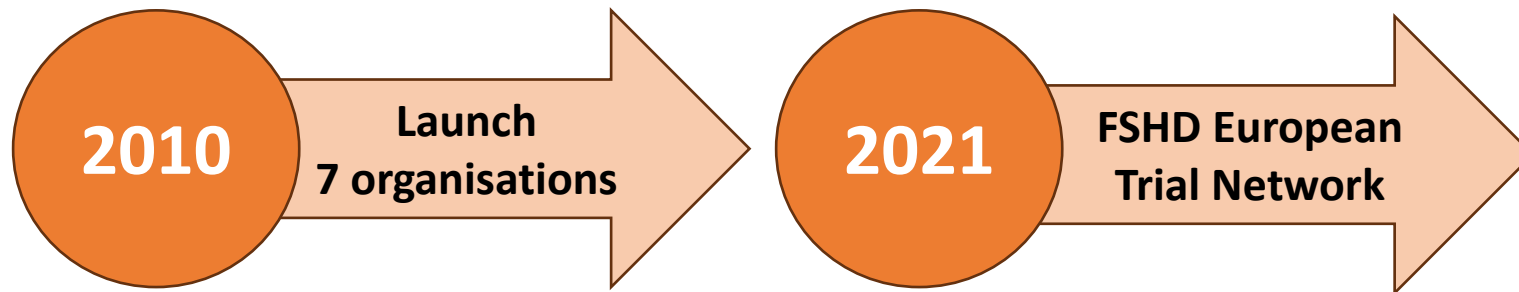
Neuromuscular Diseases
(ERN EURO-NMD)



Differences Europe - USA:

- Guidelines for clinical trials
- Pharma regulation and participation
- Health care provisions
- Supporting organizations

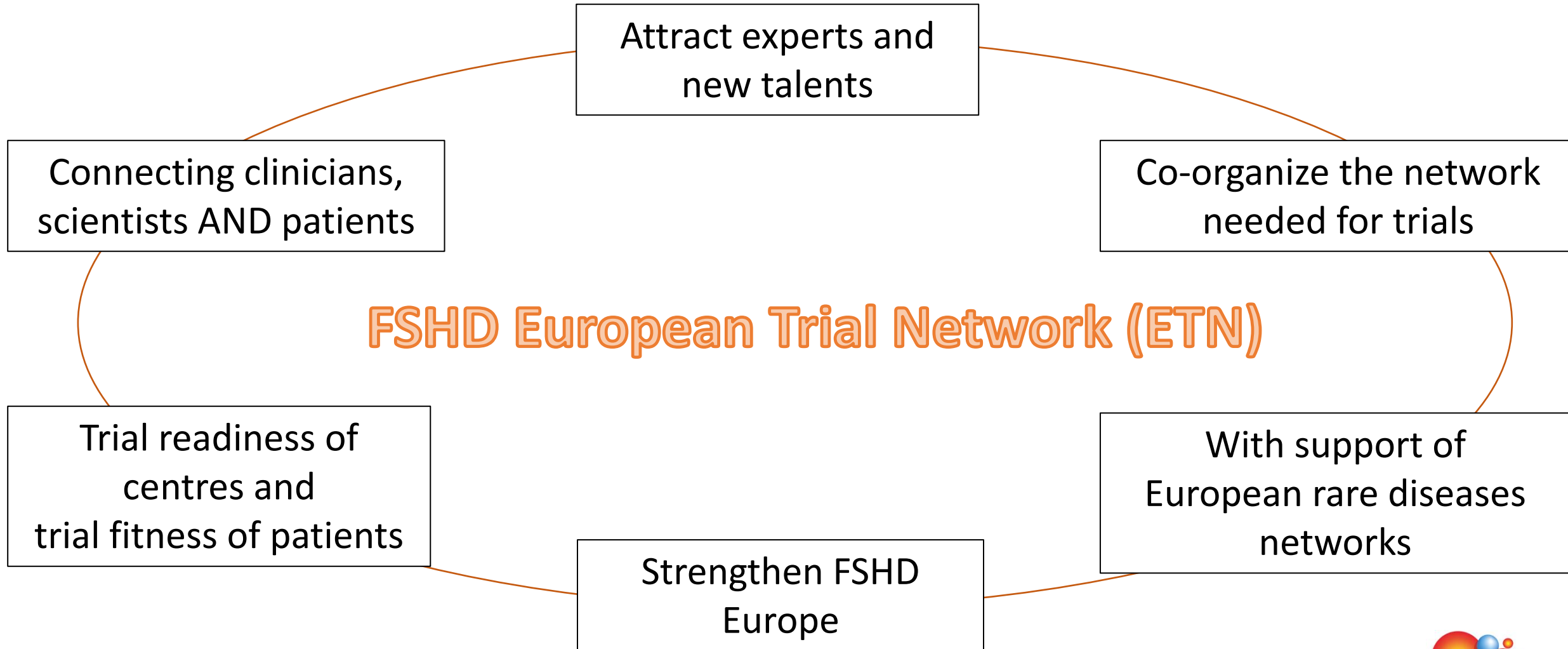
FSHD Europe developed



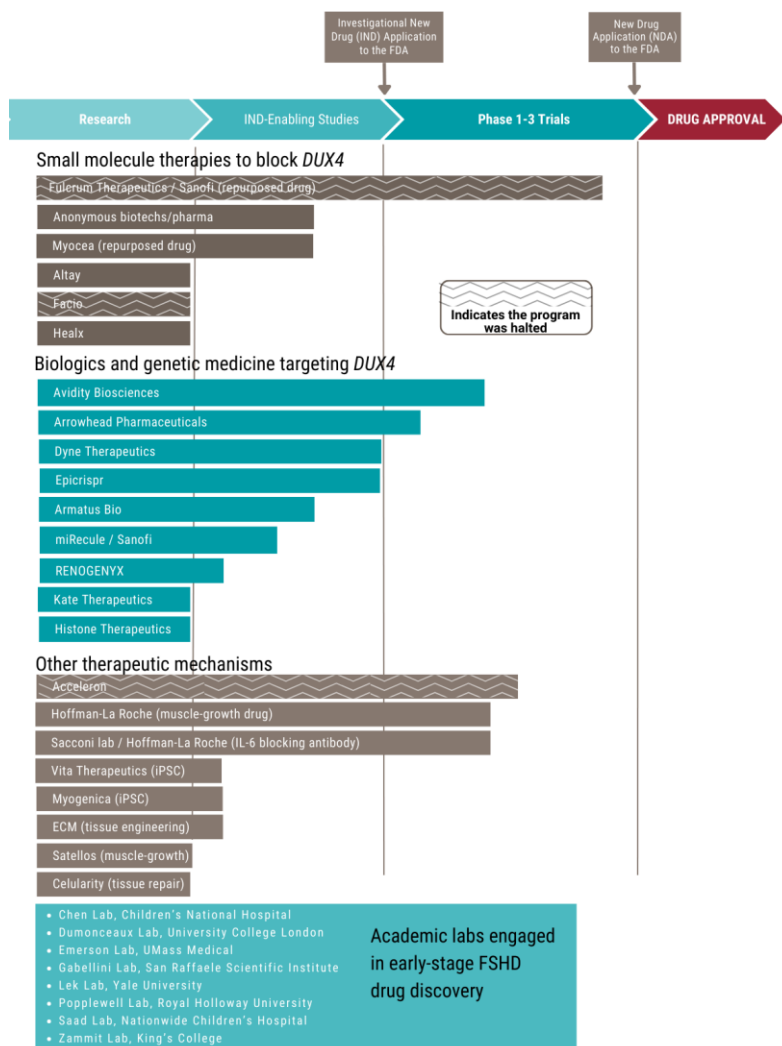
'A united, consistent patient voice for FSHD in Europe'

'Connecting the clinicians and researchers in Europe'

FSHD European Trial Network



Drug development pipeline



- Currently no treatment for FSHD
- Growing numbers of companies and academic laboratories are pressing forward with early-stage drug development efforts.
- Clinical trials ongoing

FORTITUDE

Study of safety and efficacy of RNA therapy to block DUX4

[LEARN MORE](#)

MANOEUVRE

A Study to Evaluate RO7204239 in Participants with Facioscapulohumeral Muscular Dystrophy

Phase 2 study of safety and to test if drug can help muscles grow

[LEARN MORE](#)

Arrowhead

A Phase 1/2 Trial of ARO-DUX4

Study of safety and dosage of RNA therapeutic to block DUX4

[LEARN MORE](#)

MOVE & MOVE+

Motor Outcomes to Validate Evaluations in FSHD (MOVE FSHD)

Natural history study to help improve future clinical trials

[LEARN MORE](#)

[Current Trials and Studies | FSHD Society](#)

Challenges ahead

- Clinical Trial Readiness
- Clinical Trial Infrastructure
- Patient involvement, engagement, participation and availability
- Equal access to approved therapies
- Treatment Readiness

FSHD Europe



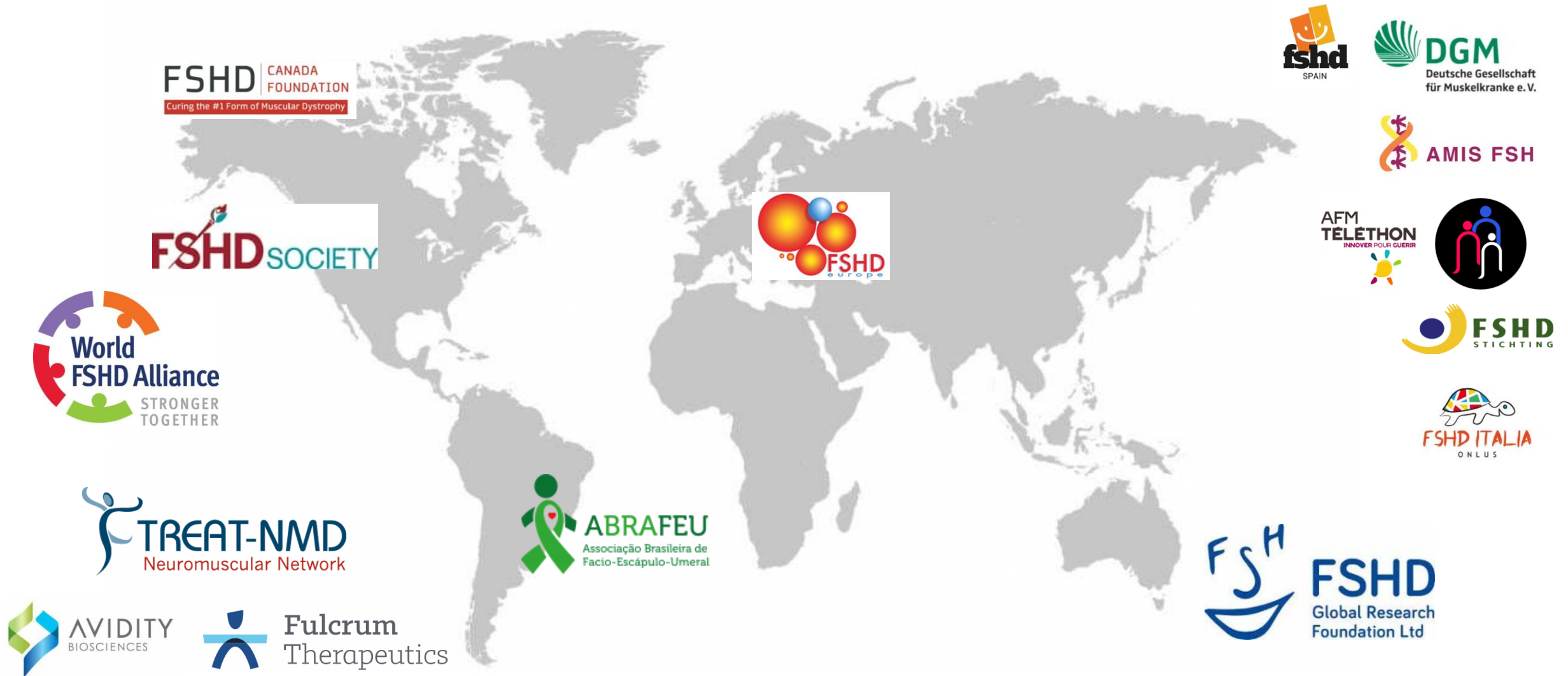
Project Mercury

A **collaboration program led by FSHD patient advocacy organizations** in partnership with experts, biopharma companies and researchers – all networked together.

The initiative is focused on **solving specific challenges that slow or stop the development and delivery of therapies** to people affected by FSHD around the world.



Project Mercury

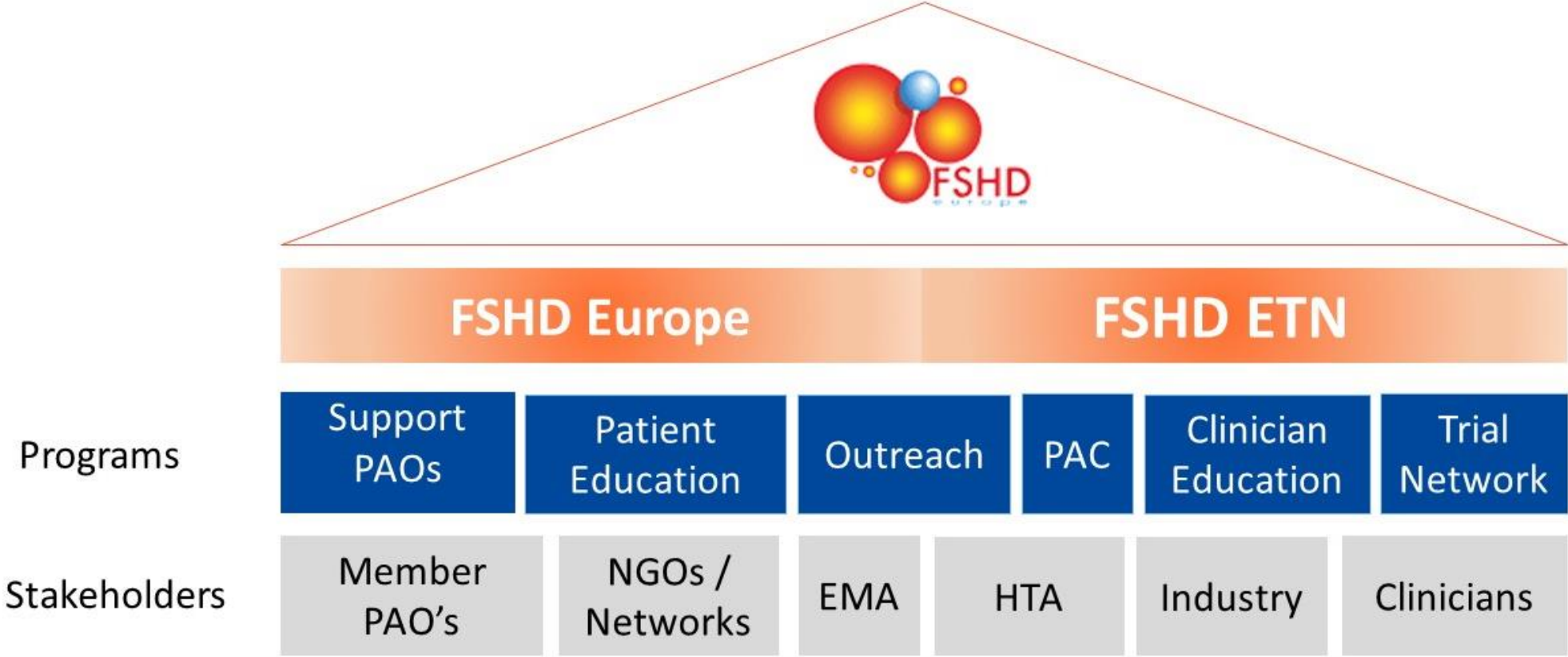


FSHD Europe



To improve the quality of life for all patients and their families,
and facilitate diagnosis of FSHD,
and enable all patients have access to the best treatment.

Organizational structure



FSHD European Trial Network (ETN)

FSHD Europe established the FSHD European Trial Network (ETN) to **support collaboration to reach trial readiness**

WG1: Clinical and genetic diagnosis
(Richard Lemmers & Emiliano Giardina)



WG2: Clinical outcome measures
(Enrico Bugiardini & Elena Carraro)

WG3: Biomarkers
(Julie Dumonceaux & Yann Pereon)

WG4: Imaging outcome measures
(Giorgio Tasca & Mauro Monforte)

WG5: Pediatrics
(Katy de Valle & Tracey Willis)

EUROPEAN
NEURO
MUSCULAR
CENTRE



Program overview

Support PAOs



Education



Patient Registries



Care/ QoL



**Clinical Trial
Network**



**Patient Advisory
Council (PAC)**



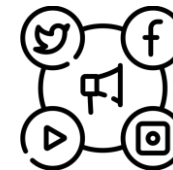
Governance



Sustainability



Outreach



Program overview

Support PAOs



Education



Patient Registries



Care/ QoL



Clinical Trial Network



Patient Advisory Council (PAC)



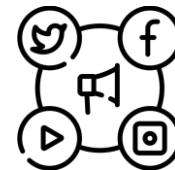
Governance



Sustainability



Outreach



Patient registries



Increase number of patients in registries

- Patient surveys to identify facilitators and barriers to participation
- Inform and educate patients
- Support development of new patient registries



Enhance Your Site's Visibility: Register with the Clinical Trial Site Registry (CTSR)

CTSR provides critical site-level information:

facilities, equipment, personnel, trial experience, and aggregated patient data

Benefits of Registration

✓ For Healthcare Providers:

- Increased visibility
- Participation in clinical trials and research collaborations
- Join international network of specialized neuromuscular disease centers

✓ For Industry & Researchers:

- A single point of access
- Access to a trusted network of specialized trial sites
- Improved recruitment

Clinician Education



- EURO-NMD Webinar series on FSHD

When	Topic	Presenter
Thursday May 8 th 4pm-5pm CET	Genetic Diagnosis	Emiliano Giardina
Thursday May 15 th 4pm-5pm CET	International Clinical Care Guidelines	Teresinha Evangelista
Thursday May 22 nd 4pm-5pm CET	Pediatric FSHD	Tracey Willis
Thursday May 28 th 4pm-5pm CET	Clinical trial readiness	Nicol Voermans

- Masterclass (in person) 2026, in collaboration with TREAT-NMD, TBD



European
Reference
Network

Neuromuscular Diseases
(ERN EURO-NMD)

Clinician and Patient Education



AMSTERDAM



JUNE 12-13, 2025



[International Research Congress | FSHD Society](#)

**WORLD
FSHD
DAY** 

Unite to find a cure

JUNE 20th



**2025
FSHD
CONNECT
EUROPE**

JUNE 13-15, 2025, Amsterdam

[FSHD Europe - The European Voice for People
with FSHD \(fshd-europe.info\)](#)

Take home messages

- **Support collaboration:** FSHD Europe newsletter www.fshd-europe.info
- **Enhance Your Site's Visibility:** Register with the Clinical Trial Site Registry (CTSR)
- **Increase patient engagement:** Inform patients about registries and trial participation
- **Strengthening FSHD Europe:** Increase number of member organizations
- **Clinician and Patient Education:** EURO-NMD Webinar series and IRC and FSHD Connect

Questions?

Prof. Nicol Voermans

Radboudumc

Email: Nicol.Voermans@radboudumc.nl

Ria de Haas PhD

FSHD Europe

Email: ria@fshd-europe.info

Website: www.fshd-europe.info