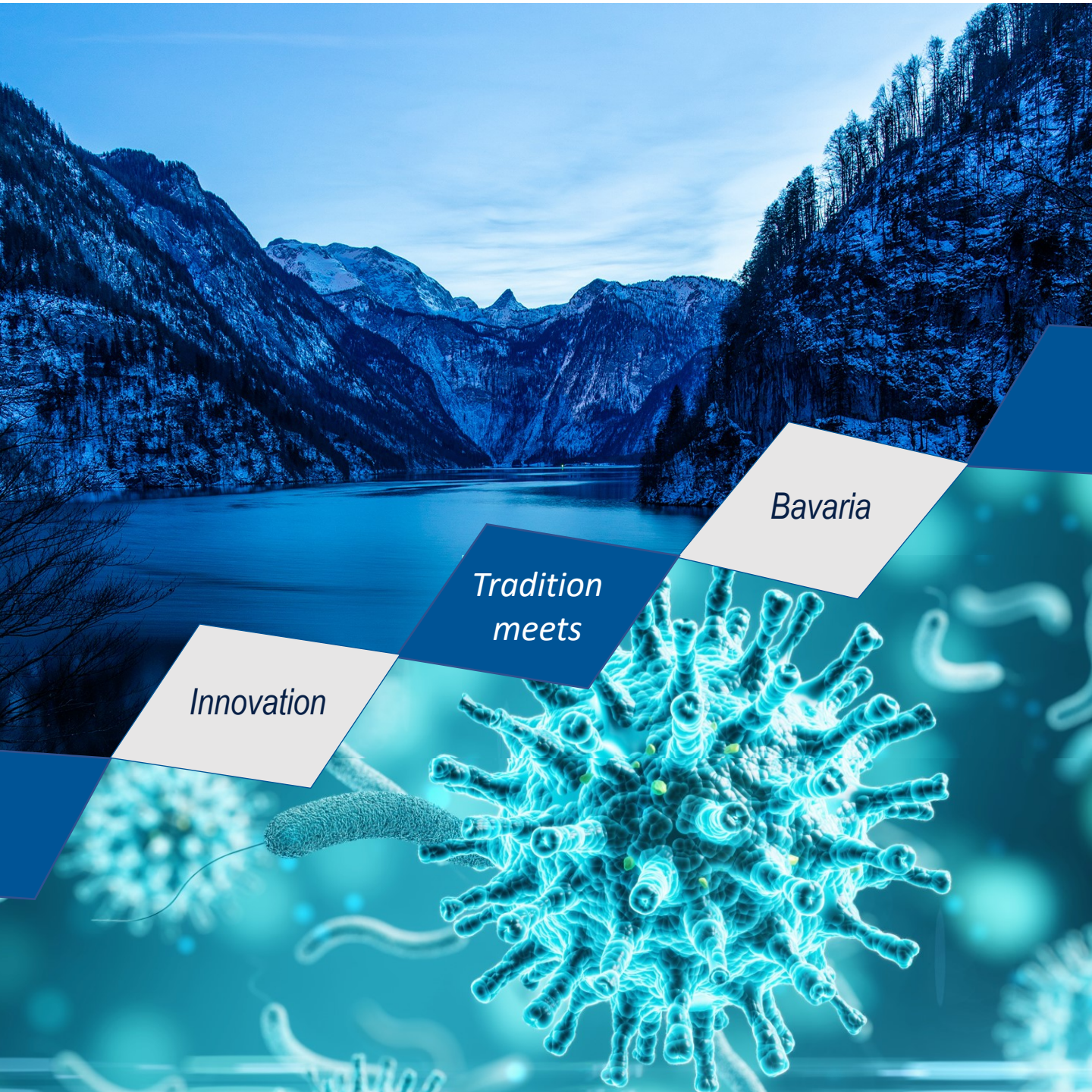


Bavarian Biotech News

December 2021



Innovation

*Tradition
meets*

Bavaria

DEAR READER/NEWS

Page 2

BIOENTREPRENEURS IN BAVARIA

Page 6 - 8

SPOTLIGHT COVID-19

Page 3 - 4

BAVARIA INTERNATIONAL

Page 9

RECENT HEADLINES

Page 5

EVENTS & CONTACT

Page 10

Dear Reader,

We hope you are well in these challenging times, still marked by the coronavirus pandemic.

In the Bavarian Biotech Report 2020/21 we have again analyzed the developments of the Bavarian biotechnology scene. The picture is characterized by a high level of employment and strong start-up dynamics.

A COVID-19 special is dedicated to the fight of Bavarian biotech companies and research institutions against the coronavirus pandemic, which also shows the effects on the industry. Overall, Bavarian biotechnology is demonstrating global clout.

The report also highlights various players and their perspectives on the industry in interviews and presents different locations.

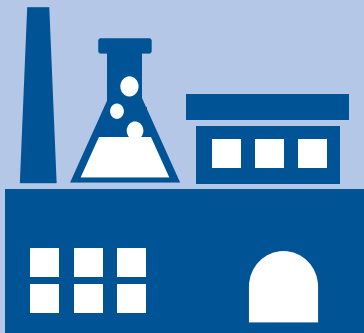
What the Bavarian biotech industry has achieved in the last months, we have summarized in the following – enjoy reading!

As the year is coming to an end, we wish you a peaceful holiday season and a good start into a healthy and happy New Year 2022! *

Your Bio^M team



Bavarian Biotech Numbers



498 Biopharma Companies



44,000 Employees



>230 Projects in Drug Pipeline

[Click here for the online version of the complete Bavarian Biotech Report](#)

25th German Future Award goes to BioNTech researchers

German's Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier awarded the 25th German Future Award to researchers from Mainz-based [BioNTech](#) Uğur Şahin, Özlem Türeci, Christoph Huber and Katalin Karikó for their development of the mRNA vaccine against the coronavirus on November 17, 2021 in Berlin.

The prize, worth EUR 250,000, is awarded each year by the Federal President to a German research team for outstanding technology and innovation. The successful use of mRNA technology also enables further developments, for example against cancer, autoimmune diseases and in regenerative medicine. BioNTech is headquartered in Mainz and has sites in Neuried and Martinsried. [Read more...](#)



The winners of the 25th German Future Award

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Bavaria supports the "Post-COVID Kids Bavaria" initiative

The "Post-COVID Kids Bavaria" project aims to improve research into the late and long-term consequences of corona disease in children and adolescents in a Bavaria-wide network.

In addition, the partners in the project are striving for rapid and competent care, better diagnostic procedures and special treatment and rehabilitation measures. The project is funded by the **Bavarian Ministry of Health** with EUR 1.7 million.

"Post-COVID Kids Bavaria" is a joint project of the [Children's University Hospital St. Hedwig der Barmherzigen Brüder Regensburg](#) and the [Center for Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine of the Munich Clinic](#) and the [Klinikum rechts der Isar of the Technical University of Munich](#) (TUM). [Read more...](#)



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Ibidi wins the Bavarian Export Award 2021

In the difficult economic times during the coronavirus pandemic, many companies broke new ground.

The "Bavarian Export Award 2021 - Special Edition: Successful in Difficult Times" honored the Gräfelfing-based company [ibidi GmbH](#) for its successful development of new foreign markets during the COVID-19 pandemic.

ibidi is a leading supplier for functional cell-based assays and advanced products for cellular microscopy. [Read more...](#)



The President of the HWK for Munich and Upper Bavaria Franz Xaver Peteranderl, the Managing Directors of ibidi GmbH Dr. Valentin Kahl and Dr. Roman Zantl and State Secretary for Economic Affairs Roland Weigert (from left).

© SMW/E. Neureuther

BayTherapie2020 Funding Program

BayTherapie2020 - the Bavarian funding package offers EUR 50 million to support companies in the development of therapeutics against COVID-19.

The first funding grant under the Bavarian Therapy Strategy went to [Pieris Pharmaceuticals](#) from Hallbergmoos near Munich. Pieris intends to use the EUR 14.2 million to accelerate the clinical development of its product candidate, an inhalable therapeutic agent for the treatment of SARS-CoV-2-induced lung damage. Other research grants went to these Martinsried based companies:

[Formycon](#) developed the SARS-CoV-2 blocker FYB207, a promising antiviral drug candidate for the treatment of infections by current and future coronaviruses.

With ETH47, [ethris](#) is developing an inhaled mRNA therapeutic whose mode of action works independent of virus mutations.

[Origenis](#) is working on the development of a drug that is designed to suppress virus replication in the body.

[Eisbach Bio](#) is funded for the clinical development of its first-in-class SARS-CoV-2 helicase inhibitor.



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Hubert Aiwanger, Bavarian State Minister of Economic Affairs (left), hands over the funding notification as part of the Bavarian Therapy Strategy to Dr. Hitto Kaufmann, CSO and Head of the Pieris research and development site.

COVID-19: Technical University of Munich expands antibody therapy

At [Klinikum rechts der Isar](#) of the [Technical University of Munich \(TUM\)](#), antibodies have already been successfully used for months in patients hospitalized with COVID-19. Now the therapy is also being expanded for outpatient treatments.

In view of the currently high number of COVID-19 patients, especially in Bavaria, this therapy makes sense for many people and is intended to be made widely available as soon as possible. In order to successfully combat the pandemic together, the physicians at Klinikum rechts der Isar would also like to share their expertise and experience with colleagues from other hospitals.

"With the approval by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) on November 12, the neutralizing antibodies can now be widely used at an early stage of the disease," say **Dr. Christoph Spinner**, infectiologist and pandemic officer at Klinikum rechts der Isar, and his colleague, **Dr. Jochen Schneider**, who heads the new COVID-19 outpatient clinic for monoclonal antibody therapy at the university hospital.

The therapy basically works like a passive vaccination. The antibodies, which are administered intravenously or subcutaneously, are designed to prevent the viruses from entering human cells and thus stop the virus from replicating. However, it is crucial that the antibodies are administered within the first seven days after the onset of symptoms. [Read more...](#)



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Dr. Christoph Spinner from the Klinikum rechts der Isar of the Technical University of Munich

Novartis opens site in the heart of Munich

Swiss pharmaceutical giant Novartis is building another German site in the heart of Munich. The decisive factor was the strong biotechnology network in the greater Munich area, which Novartis Germany CEO Heinrich Moisa sees as leading in Europe.



[Novartis Pharma GmbH](#), which belongs to Novartis AG of Basel, Switzerland, is one of the leading research-based pharmaceutical companies in Germany. By taking the step of opening **another administrative headquarter in Munich**, the group aims to become more closely rooted in the biotechnology and pharmaceuticals sector, which is very strong locally, and to take advantage of its proximity to Munich's universities and research institutions. From 2024, around 500 employees are expected to move into the converted Alte Akademie in Munich's pedestrian zone. The company will open a temporary office in a co-working space in Munich as early as the beginning of 2022. [Read more...](#)

NanoTemper Technologies again "Innovator of the Year"

[NanoTemper Technologies GmbH](#) from Munich has taken first place in the TOP 100 innovation competition in size category B (51 to 200 employees). The company, which offers biophysical laboratory measuring instruments for basic research and drug development, can now call itself "Innovator of the Year" for the third time.

The two study colleagues **Dr. Philipp Baaske** and **Dr. Stefan Duhr** developed their method for measuring biotherapeutics at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich. Spun off then in 2008, NanoTemper today markets measuring devices developed and manufactured in-house worldwide, as well as software, applications and consumables such as special glass capillaries.



Ivana Bekić and Jonathan Derix from NanoTemper Technologies

© NanoTemper Technologies

The Bavarian [Bayern Innovativ](#), [BioVariance GmbH](#), [Foundation Medicine GmbH](#) and [MLL Münchner Leukämielabor GmbH](#) were also certified with the TOP 100 label of the innovation competition. [Read more...](#)

Bavarian Pharmaceutical Summit

Bavaria's Minister of Health Klaus Holetschek and Vice Minister of Economic Affairs Roland Weigert want to strengthen Bavaria as a pharmaceutical location and improve the framework conditions for safe pharmaceutical care.

The two politicians signed a paper to this effect in Martinsried on November 9. This provides for a large number of very specific measures, including the strengthening of **patent protection** and **simplification of administrative processes**, as well as an **opt-out model for the use of data** from the electronic patient record (ePA) for research purposes.

Signatories on the part of the pharmaceutical associations are the Bundesverband der Arzneimittelhersteller e.V. (B.A.H), the Biotechnology Industry Organization Germany e.V. (BIO Deutschland), the Bavarian regional association of the German Pharmaceutical Industry Association. (BPI), Pro Generika e.V. and the Association of Research-Based Pharmaceutical Companies e.V. (vfa). [Read more...](#)

Two diagnostics start-ups win the 12th "Start?Zuschuss!" competition

The winners of the 12th competition phase of the "Start?Zuschuss!" funding program have been announced. Two life science start-ups are among them: Dermagnostix GmbH and hema.to. The Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs is supporting a total of 28 innovative start-ups from all over Bavaria.

The Bavarian funding program "[Start?Zuschuss!](#)" is aimed at technology-oriented start-ups in the field of digitalization. The winners will receive funding of up to EUR 36,000 over one year for rent and personnel, research and development, and the market launch of the product.

[Dermagnostix GmbH](#), based in Friedberg, is focused on the next generation of **molecular diagnostics for human skin diseases**.

In early December 2021, the start-up raised a **seven-digit seed funding**. This is intended to bring Dermagnostix's system to market with the first test PsorEx-LabDisk.

[Hema.to](#) from Munich develops an analysis **software for fully automated and AI-supported flow cytometry diagnostics** of blood samples for rapid leukemia diagnostics.

[Read more...](#)



DERMAGNOSTIX
moving diagnostic frontiers in dermatology

HEMA.TO

iOmx raises EUR 65 million

Martinsried-based [iOmx Therapeutics AG](#) has closed a ERU 65 million Series B financing round. The financing was led by Athos Service GmbH - the family office of the Strüngmann family - and MIG Capital AG, with participation from existing investors Wellington Partners, Sofinnova Partners and M Ventures.



iOmx
THERAPEUTICS

The company plans to invest the new funds to bring its lead program IMT-07, a **SIK3 kinase inhibitor for the treatment of solid tumors**, through its first human clinical trial. It also plans to further develop IMT-18, an IGSF11-targeted antibody for the treatment of PD-1/PD-L1-resistant tumors. In addition, iOmx plans to further leverage its target discovery platform, iOTarg, to advance additional novel immune checkpoint programs to the lead candidate stage. [Read more...](#)

Dymium from Munich wins the BioRegions 2021 Innovation Award

At the German Biotechnology Days 2021 in Stuttgart, the winners of this year's [BioRegions Innovation Award](#) were announced. Three projects from the fields of medical technology and vaccine and active ingredient research were able to convince the jury. In addition to the Innovation Award, the project of the Munich-based company Dymium also won the Audience Award.

Among the winners is the project "Suspension for the magnetization of kidney stones" a team from the **TU München**. The young company [Dymium](#) has developed a technology based on a biocompatible agent for the magnetization of urinary stone fragments.

The biomedical engineering approach represents an innovative and novel method of minimally invasive and residue-free magnetic kidney stone extraction in one step and raises the prospect of greater chances of healing and surgical improvements. [Read more...](#)

Dymium

Strüngmann brothers invest EUR 25 million in Munich start-ups

Great news for the Munich start-up scene: UnternehmerTUM and the TUM Venture Labs will be supported by the entrepreneur brothers Andreas and Thomas Strüngmann with EUR 25 million over the next 10 years. This funding will take Europe's largest start-up and innovation center at the Technical University of Munich and the new TUM Venture Labs a long way internationally.

"UnternehmerTUM and TUM have built an outstanding start-up ecosystem over the last twenty years. With our commitment, our family would like to make a contribution to accompany even more students as well as scientists on a successful entrepreneurial path," said **Andreas and Thomas Strüngmann**.

The two entrepreneurs are known as successful investors, having invested early on in the now globally renowned biotechnology company **BioNTech** and the generics manufacturer **Hexal**.

The **TUM Venture Labs**, initiated by **TUM** and **UnternehmerTUM**, offer an internationally outstanding funding infrastructure for one specific technology field each. They are specifically focused on significant technology fields and create dynamic ecosystems of start-ups, science, investors and experienced companies.

SciRhom augments seed financing to reach total funding of EUR 16 million

The Martinsried-based company SciRhom was able to increase its seed capital to a total of EUR 16 million in another seed financing round. This support is expected to help reach the next development milestones of the novel antibody therapy against autoimmune diseases.

Martinsried-based **SciRhom GmbH** is developing **novel antibody therapies** to inhibit pro-inflammatory signaling pathways. The new seed financing will increase the biotechnology company's seed capital by an additional EUR 8 million.



With this additional investment from existing shareholders and a selected group of investors from Europe and the U.S., the company has secured a total of 16 million euros to reach the next development milestones of its first-in-class drug candidates.

OmicEra Diagnostics accepted into EIT Health Gold Track Program

OmicEra Diagnostics has been selected for EIT Health's Gold Track program. The leading mentoring initiative aims to support the Planegg-based start-up's success in the global market. The company is developing a proteome analysis platform for medical diagnostics.

OmicEra Diagnostics from Planegg is developing a **new analysis platform for proteome analytics in medical diagnostics**. At the end of October, the start-up was selected for **EIT Health's Gold Track** program and is now receiving various coaching sessions from experienced mentors for the young company's entry into the global market.

With the goal of creating international success stories of European biotech companies to strengthen the industry, the Gold Track program matches promising companies with high-profile advisors from the life sciences sector. [Read more...](#)



OmicEra
d i a g n o s t i c s

© OmicEra

BioEntrepreneurship Summit 2021: “Biotechnology is more important than ever!”

Young founders, start-ups, companies as well as investors and experts of the life science, biotech and health tech community came together from October 19-21, 2021 for Bio^M's BioEntrepreneurship Summit - for a lively and exciting exchange on topics such as founding in the pandemic, diversity, internationalization and sustainability in biotechnology.

The Summit was completed by start-up and investor pitches. 285 participants from all over the world followed the exciting discussion rounds, lectures and pitches from a total of 76 excellent contributors at the [BioEntrepreneurship Summit 2021](#) in a fully virtual conference format - a complete success with even more participants than in previous years.



m⁴ Award 2021: EUR 2.5 million against widespread diseases and antibiotic resistances

The Bavarian State Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy announced the five winners of this year's [m⁴ Award](#) pre-seed competition together with Bio^M at the [BioEntrepreneurship Summit 2021](#) start-up event on October 21, 2021. Each winning team will receive up to EUR 500,000 for two years from the Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy. Due to the current situation, the award ceremony took place as a virtual event.

One of the selected teams is developing special viruses, bacteriophages, with whose urgently needed help **antibiotic resistance** can be circumvented. Two of the winning teams are working on innovative therapeutic options for treating the widespread **disease diabetes**, and another team is working on reducing **cardiovascular diseases**. **Hair loss** also affects a not inconsiderable proportion of the population (40-70%), and one of the winning teams wants to find a remedy here.

With prize money of up to EUR 500,000 for two years per winning team, the competition supports the further development and validation of the respective project idea in preparation for a spin-off. The award was coordinated by Bio^M. [Read more...](#)



© Bio^M / Claude Alberth

The five winning teams of the m⁴ Award 2021 - **BetaRegeneration**, **Invitris**, **MalliaBioTech**, **SELECKREM** and **SugarSwitch** - with Prof. Horst Domdey (Managing Director Bio^M; 6th from right) and Dr. Manfred Wolter (Head of the Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs; 7th from right)

German-Chinese Working Group for the Health and Medical Industry

The "German-Chinese Working Group for the Promotion of the Health and Medical Industry" was founded at MEDICA 2021. With this contract, the project for cooperation between German players and partners from the life science sector in China was brought to life.

It aims to harness the diverse opportunities and potentials for companies in the life science environment. Chinese and German companies are to receive support in expanding their activities in the other country. The focus is primarily on professional exchange and cooperation between companies in both countries and in science and research, as well as on industrial investments.

Nine partners from Germany are involved

The working group is led by [CIPA \(China Investment Promotion Agency of Ministry of Commerce of P. R. China\)](#) and [Germany Trade & Invest](#), the German foreign trade promotion agency. Also participating from the German side are Bio^M, [BioCon Valley](#), [BIO.NRW](#), [Hessen Trade & Invest](#), [Life Science Nord](#), [Medical Valley](#), [medways](#) and [WTSH \(Wirtschaftsförderung und Technologietransfer Schleswig-Holstein\)](#).

[Read more...](#)



Representatives of the working group members signing the contract at MEDICA 2021.

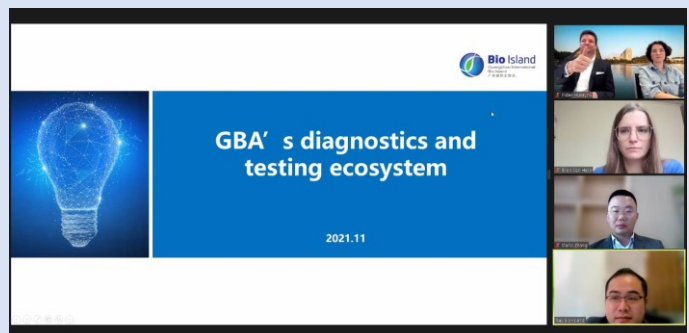
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Greater Bay Area Seminar Series: Medical Diagnostics and Testing

Another seminar within the Greater Bay Area Seminar Series has gathered participants from Europe and China and featured 7 international speakers and 5 discussion panels with the focus on medical diagnostics and testing ecosystems.



The event took place **online** on 25th of November and was organized by the [Huangpu, Guangzhou Development District](#)'s office in Europe in partnership with the leading European healthcare clusters: **Bio^M**, **BioRN**, **BioCon Valley**, **Biocat**, **Medical Valley**, **Life Science Nord**, **MAGIA2Market – European biotech alliance** as well as with the support from **POM Limburg**, **Catalonia Trade & Investment/Barcelona**, and **SCI Group/Guangzhou**.



The seminar's focus was on **medical diagnostics and testing ecosystem** in China's Greater Bay Area. The seminar has attracted European, Chinese but also Asia-wide healthcare & biomedicine SMEs and startups, as well as biomedicine clusters and investment promotion agencies both from China and Europe. In her opening speech, **Yu Chen**, who is from Guangzhou and Manager China Desk at POM Limburg, Belgium underlined strategic importance of thriving economic cooperation relationship between China and Europe.

[Biotech Showcase: The investor conference for innovators](#)

January 10 - 12, 2022 | San Francisco

January 17 - 19, 2022 | Virtually

[BIO-Europe SPRING](#) in-person and digitally

March 28 - 30, 2022 | Basel

[BIO KOREA](#)

May 11 - 13, 2022 | COEX, Seoul

[BIO International Convention](#)

June 13 - 16, 2022 | San Diego

[Analytica 2022](#)

June 21- 24, 2022 | Messe München

Please find current event information on our website www.bio-m.org/en/events.
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, short-term changes can occur.

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