



Newsletter Issue #6
December 2020
*Translational quantitative
systems toxicology to
improve the understanding
of the safety of medicines*

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We are pleased to present the **TransQST-Newsletter** Issue 6

Key Note

2020 has been a challenging year as COVID-19 has been disrupting our ways of working. While we have been missing the social interaction part of our General Assembly, the virtual sessions held in April and October were very productive and continue to showcase the progress towards our main objectives.

As we close our 4th year and enter the final year, the focus will be on implementation, dissemination and education to realize the TransQST expected impact. The dedicated and committed taskforce, formed by mid-year to address this need, requires strong input, especially from the EFPIA partners, to prioritize the tools and framework that should be implemented to start shifting the paradigm in translational safety. There is also a great opportunity for the academic and associated partners to play a pivotal role in sustainability mechanisms, elaboration, and dissemination of best practices.

Our ability to implement our science to a very concrete COVID-19 related question has been highlighted in the last newsletter. I am looking forward to similar implementation examples in the upcoming months as patients are always waiting for innovative and safe drugs.

Wishing you a happy holiday season and a prosperous and healthy 2021.

Loic Laplanche, Abbvie (Project EFPIA lead)

Project News [Visit our website News section](#)

TransQST present at the virtual Science Is Wonderful! Exhibition

TransQST work was showcased by researchers from the University of Oxford at the EU Research and Innovation Days' Science is Wonderful! Exhibition in September 2020. The aim of the 3-day event, gathering over 35.000 participants, was to bring the world of science, research, and



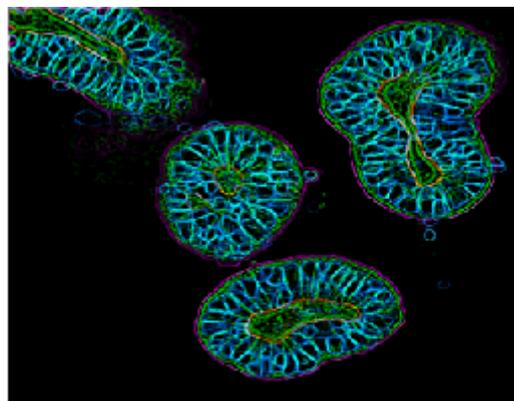
The Oxford crew presented their research at the Drug Safety Predictions stand where they also answered questions from the audience throughout the event. A video titled “A journey into the Virtual Heart” is available on [YouTube](#), and describes the development of human heart computer models carried out at Oxford to improve

drug safety predictions. The event received much attention and TransQST work was also acknowledged by IMI in their [September 2020 newsletter](#).

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TransQST Webinar series: The latest advances in the use of organoids

The webinar cycle to display tools, models and publications of possible interest to the consortium members was resumed in September after the summer break with the presentation by Ocello researchers. The webinar provided insights on the latest advanced in the use of organoids for drug testing by demonstrating Ocello’s image-based analysis platform to evaluate compound efficacy and adversity in gastrointestinal human organoids.



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TransQST Webinar series, Journal club: Bioactivation liver response assay as a predictive tool of drug-induced liver injury

*Journal
Club*



The detection of chemically reactive metabolites involved in liver toxicity remains a challenge in the drug development process. While most detection strategies available have proved ineffective, the bioactivation liver response assay developed at Merck constitutes a novel predictive tool. The recent article by F. Sistare and colleagues describing the method was reviewed and commented during this webinar given by researchers

from the University of Liverpool

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The sixth TransQST General Assembly meeting was held in a virtual format on 5-6 of October 2020.

The 2-day meeting focused on the implementation of the models and work carried out within the different work packages, as well as on defining dissemination and sustainability strategies for the last year of the project. The progress and future plans of the consortium were assessed by the members of the TransQST Scientific Advisory Board that participated actively in the discussions providing valuable recommendations and insights.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

[TransQST 7th General Assembly Meeting](#)

April 2021 | Virtual

[SOT Annual Meeting and ToxExpo 2021](#)

12-26 March 2021 | Virtual

[Pharmacology 2021](#)

7-8 September 2021 | London

[EuroTox 2021](#)

26-29 September 2021 | Copenhagen

Publications

[Visit our website Publications section](#)

[Converting networks to predictive logic models from perturbation signalling data with](#)

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PROJECT INFORMATION [Visit our website](#)

Next issue in June 2021

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