



RegMed XB: Leading research institute that catalyzes business

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The world is facing large health and healthcare challenges. Aging and changing lifestyles are driving a rapid increase in the chronic disease burden around the world. In response, our healthcare system has been geared towards caring for the chronically diseased: relieving symptoms and slowing down disease progression. This system is labor intensive and expensive. Regenerative medicine (RM) can make a powerful contribution to addressing this health challenge. It holds the promise to cure many of what are now chronic patients, restoring health rather than protracting decline, bettering the lives of millions and at the same time preventing lifelong, expensive care processes: **cure instead of care**.

RM is not only a promise to patients; it is also a major international economic opportunity. Future RM solutions target large international healthcare markets. RM companies are increasingly gaining momentum; from 2013 to 2014, investment in RM companies grew from USD 3 bn to USD 6.3 bn, and the number of clinical trials in the field grew by 33% per year between 2002 and 2014. RM holds the promise to develop into a **new, innovative industrial sector**, a sector in which biotech companies, production companies, high-tech suppliers, research services providers, hospitals and research institutes can thrive and work together to create knowledge-intensive jobs and solutions for patients.

Opportunity for business and patients



Creating more impact from science



This new RM industry will be based on profound scientific understanding. The success of the emerging RM sector relies on excellent research at knowledge institutes and the effective valorization thereof. The region **Utrecht-Eindhoven-Maastricht-Leiden-Leuven** punches above its weight in excellent RM science. With university medical centers, science parks and financing opportunities, the region has solid infrastructure for translating science into practice. And it hosts an emerging RM industry.

The scientific community in the region, however, is somewhat fractured, with pockets of researchers scattered over different institutes. Most institutes have their own technology transfer offices (TTOs) that are charged with providing their support across the entire academic enterprise. They lack the concentrated resources – professionals and networks – with the scientific, clinical, business and intellectual property expertise to excel in the RM sector. Furthermore, the distance between knowledge institutes and existing companies remains (too) large, compounding the issue.

We believe that much more impact can be created from the excellent science in the region, for business and for patients. RegMed XB (regenerative medicine crossing borders) has the ambition to become an **internationally leading research institute** in RM that bundles the forces of the strong institutes in the region. Researchers and entrepreneurs will work side by side to perform and valorize the research defined around several solutions for large unmet medical needs. The institute will closely collaborate with companies, build strong patent positions and out-license them, and create new companies.

- **Critical mass:** RegMed XB brings together excellent, entrepreneurial scientists in the region Utrecht-Eindhoven-Maastricht-Leiden-Leuven in a single, virtual institute of sufficient scale to compete for the international top
- **Programmatic, demand-driven:** RegMed XB builds a coherent, multidisciplinary R&D program around a few disruptive innovations that target large unmet medical needs, defined together with health foundations; roadmaps with much potential for business spin-out are defined to realize goals
- **Effective valorization:** RegMed XB bundles IP and builds a professional business development and acceleration team (thematic TTO) focused on RM to valorize IP through start-ups, scale-ups and license agreements. The team will have access to specific funds to finance valorization
- **Private-public partnership:** RegMed XB connects scientists with entrepreneurs/companies in research collaborations, putting a company (existing or new) next to a scientist in an early stage of the research and financially supporting such cooperation
- **Pool investments:** RegMed XB pools the investments of regional, national and international public and private financiers to act together in their joint interest

An approach that builds impact

