

[Dutch Foundation for cardiac research has issued a grant to AUMC for clinical research on synergistic effects of *A. soehngeni* \(*E. hallii*\) and metformin in Type 2 diabetes patients](#)

Amsterdam – The Dutch foundation for cardiac research and rehabilitation, formally named “Hartstichting” has recently issued 3 matching grants (together with TKI) to enable R&D consortia to advance important preclinical results to further clinical development. The consortia are based on cooperation between academic groups, companies and other organisations in the field.

The matching grants issued by the “Hartstichting” aim i. to initiate new clinical trials by consortia studying key national R&D themes in the cardiovascular field and ii. to stimulate valorisation and further implementation of new developments, while enhancing the involvement of other relevant organisations in this field. These grants will enhance the availability of innovative solutions to patients for the prevention and early treatment of cardiovascular diseases.

One of the 3 matching grants was issued to the Development team of dr Hilde Herrema/Prof Bert Groen at the Amsterdam University Medical Centre (AUMC) in the Netherlands. The grant will be used to conduct a clinical trial in patients suffering from Type 2 diabetes. The study will investigate the potential synergetic beneficial cardio-metabolic role of *A. soehngeni* in combination with oral metformin on glycemic control and blood pressure.

An important research topic at the AUMC is the understanding and ability to influence the impact of gut microorganism on health and disease. In this respect AUMC is closely working with Caelus Health, which develops food supplements and pharmaceutical products based on gut microbiota for the prevention and early treatment of cardio-metabolic diseases.

Previous studies on *A. soehngeni* demonstrated among others that local administration of cells of *A. soehngeni* in the small intestine led to a significantly increased production of plasma GLP-1 and resulted in improved glycemic control.

The PI of the study in Type 2 Diabetes, dr. H. Herrema (AUMC) stated: *“Considering the previous positive results of A. soehngeni in intervention in pre-diabetes/Metabolic Syndrome and the recent finding of the positive impact on GLP-1 production, it is very interesting to further assess the potential synergy of this microbiome-based product in combination with metformin in the early treatment of Type 2 diabetes.”*

In addition, Luc Sterkman, MD, CEO of Caelus commented: *We are very pleased that the matching grant issued by the “Hartstichting” enables further clinical development of our product in Type 2 diabetes. This may enable further advancing the promising role of interventions based on microbiota into the phase of early treatment of patients suffering from cardio-metabolic diseases.”*

You may follow this link to the original message by the “Hartstichting”:

[Drie matching grants toegekend | Hartstichting](#)



AUMC, the Amsterdam University Medical Center (AUMC), location AMC, is one of the foremost research institutions in the Netherlands, as well as one of its largest hospitals. Over 7000 people work at AMC to provide integrated patient care, fundamental and clinical scientific research, and teaching. The AMC complex houses among others the university hospital and the faculty of medicine of UvA as well as the Emma Children's Hospital and the Netherlands Institute for Neuroscience. A number of biotech companies (some of which are AMC spin-offs) are also located on the premises. This concentration of expertise makes the centre a breeding ground for fruitful scientific collaboration.

Caelus Health is an Amsterdam-based biotech company. Caelus is dedicated to the commercialisation of functional food and pharmaceutical products for the prevention and early treatment of cardio-metabolic diseases. Based on the strong correlation between the intestinal microbiome and health, the company is developing an entirely new class of microbiota-based therapeutics for the reduction of insulin resistance and prevention of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM) in people with metabolic syndrome (MetS). In addition, the company has built an extensive range of patents based on the gut microbiome and fecal Microbiota Transplant (FMT) -studies In Type 1 Diabetes, cancer cachexia and liver disorders.

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