



A-TANGO

**Novel treatment of acute on chronic liver failure
using synergistic action of G-CSF and TAK
H2020 – 945096**

D7.11 Second Helix Event targeted to industry end-users and investors

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Abbreviations

ACLF	acute-on-chronic liver failure
AH	alcoholic hepatitis
Charité	Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin
concentris	concentris research management gmbh
D	Deliverable
DoA	Description of Action
EASL	European Association for the Study of the Liver
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
G-CSF	granulocyte-colony stimulating factor
G-TAK	combinatorial therapy of A-TANGO using G-CSF and TAK-242
PU	public
Q&A	questions & answers
SMEs	small and medium-sized enterprises
TAK-242	antagonist of toll-like receptor 4 (TLR4)
TLR4	toll-like receptor 4
UCL	University College London
WP	work package

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1 Executive Summary

This document outlines the **Second Helix Event (Deliverable D7.11)**, detailing the planning, organisation and implementation activities involved. Helix Events aims to connect and promote the outputs, results, and uptake of A-TANGO's innovations during and after the end of the project. These activities, including the two Helix Events, are mapped under **Task 7.3** of A-TANGO's Description of Action (DoA): Dissemination for scientists, medical and industrial community. In alignment with the overall objectives of work package 7 (WP7), the Second Helix Event focused on raising awareness among relevant stakeholders about the dire need to develop treatments for liver failure, describe the project's approach and vision, and emphasise A-TANGO's ambition to bring the combinatorial G-TAK therapy to the market (should the clinical study prove to be successful), attract potential investors (for real-world implementation of the G-TAK therapy in case of a successful clinical trial), facilitate interaction, and encourage exchange between the consortium, the scientific community, and industry members.

The First Helix Event (D7.7) was organised as an in-person (face-to-face) event in early May 2025 at EASL Congress in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. This Second Helix, in contrast, was intentionally organised as an **interactive online event** in June 2025 to reach our online target audience. We purposefully organised both Helix Events shortly after each other to (1) bundle our efforts to reach potential investors during this critical phase of the project (start of the clinical study), (2) raise highest-possible awareness of the urgent need to develop an effective therapy for people suffering from liver failure, and (3) address both the on-site liver research community at EASL Congress (First Helix Event, D7.7) as well as those stakeholders who prefer an online event (this Second Helix Event, D7.11).

2 Introduction

2.1 About the A-TANGO project: Novel treatment of acute-on-chronic liver failure using synergistic action of G-CSF and TAK-242

Alcoholic liver disease is the most frequent cause of liver cirrhosis and a major non-communicable chronic disease. In Europe, it accounts for **6.5% of all deaths** and **30-40% of liver-related deaths**. The economic impact reaches a total of 125 billion Euros per year in Europe. The patients that are at highest risk of death are those with superimposed alcoholic hepatitis (AH), who do not respond to therapy and develop ACLF, a newly described, severe syndrome characterised by multiorgan failure. A clinically efficacious and cost-effective therapy remains an urgent unmet need to treat patients with steroid-resistant AH (srAH) who progress to develop ACLF. Without new treatments, patients with srAH will continue to have high mortality rates.

Based upon their clinical and pre-clinical studies, the A-TANGO consortium partners have discovered a novel and innovative solution to address the problem of ACLF in patients with srAH. **G-TAK – a new combinatorial therapy** is based upon the synergy between **granulocyte-colony stimulating factor (G-CSF)** and TAK-242, a **toll-like 4 receptor (TLR4) antagonist**, which modulates inflammation. In addition, A-TANGO aims to develop novel biomarkers for patient selection and defining prognosis. Moreover, A-TANGO strives to understand the multifaceted pathophysiological basis of alcoholic hepatitis and ACLF with the fundamental aim to reduce the high mortality rates of the disease, improve quality of life for these patients, and reduce healthcare costs.

2.2 About the Liver Health Helix

CrowdHelix is a global network of research and technology organizations, associations, corporates, small- and medium-size companies (SMEs), and experts. The network has more than **820 members** and **18.900 expert users** on its platform. It forges links between its members and users so that they can plan, deliver, and exploit pioneering collaborative projects and value chains.

The Network is set up around thematic areas, e.g., Health Helix, Digital Helix, Energy Helix, Food Helix, etc., and is supported by CrowdHelix's digital platform, where **55 virtual communities** are hosted. A Helix is a specialised community/cluster comprising experts and research and innovation professionals across academia and industry. It provides its members with the following main functionalities:

- Announcements
- Collaboration opportunities posting / Dissemination opportunities posting
- Results posting
- Expertise offer
- Search engine for identifying suitable collaborators
- Interaction with experts/organizations
- Training and Events

The **Liver Health Helix** has been created within the framework of the A-TANGO project to accelerate the project's dissemination, communication, and commercialization strategies to build a strong, self-sustaining community of like-minded stakeholders that have access to updates on the project and collaborate with experts in their field of interest.

Since the beginning of the project, the Liver Health Helix has accumulated **333 experts from 150 organisations across 39 countries**. The Liver Health Helix is an important "multiplier" of A-TANGO's messages and outputs. It supports collaboration and dissemination of key results to accelerate the impact of its community of specialists in the fields of liver disease from cirrhosis, hepatology, drug manufacturing, bioinformatics, and related disciplines.

2.3 Helix Events

The Helix Events within the A-TANGO project are aimed to share the project's results with relevant stakeholders and targeted research and industry communities. Wherever possible, the consortium creates networking opportunities to facilitate interaction with stakeholders, especially through the two Helix Events that were planned during the duration of the project. These events aimed to bring together participants from both the research community and industry to discuss the findings and potential applications of the research conducted in A-TANGO. With this objective in mind, CrowdHelix organized the Second Helix Event, titled "Industrial Perspective on Drug Development Challenges for Clinical Trials" on June 4, 2025, as a 1.5h-long online webinar, ensuring active involvement and engagement from all consortium members.

Key objectives of the event were:

- To communicate and disseminate A-TANGO project's results to a broader audience
- To connect industry and the scientific community to pinpoint drug development challenges in clinical trials collaboratively
- To showcase the Liver Health Helix – a virtual collaboration community on the CrowdHelix platform for collaboration in the field.

3 Description of the Event

3.1 Event Planning and Preparation

Crowdhelix and concentris, the leader of WP7, initiated the planning and preparation phase for the event, involving all partners through regular meetings of the steering committee and dissemination committee. During these meetings, the consortium discussed the event agenda, invited speakers, target audiences, and organizational details. From February 2025 to June 2025, the Helix event was planned by the consortium during various A-TANGO's phone conferences of the coordination team and the WP7 dissemination team. The Impact Acceleration Manager and the Communication and Events Officer at Crowdhelix led the planning and preparation efforts for the event. Academic partners were tasked with developing the agenda content, identifying invited speakers, and providing overall direction for the event, while Crowdhelix and concentris were responsible for organising and promoting the event.

The planning and preparation process for the event began with a discussion on its theme, guided by feedback from consortium members. As the event targets the industry, the consortium suggested focusing on the **industrial perspective of drug development challenges** related to clinical trials. Once the theme was established, the consortium identified potential keynote speakers, which helped in developing a draft agenda for the event. Crowdhelix then reached out to the suggested keynote speakers and managed the logistical aspects of the event, including scheduling the date, creating an event website on *InEvent* (the event management software used by Crowdhelix), and preparing promotional materials. After confirming the keynote speakers, the **event date - 4 June 2025**, and the agenda, CHX launched the registration process. Together with concentris, Crowdhelix promoted the project on various platforms, including the A-TANGO website, social media accounts, EASL 2025 Congress, and the Crowdhelix website, as well as LinkedIn groups focused on liver health. Additionally, CHX updated the stakeholder list outlined in D7.1 (Stakeholder Map) with **53 new industry contacts**, inviting them to the event.

3.2 Communication and Dissemination Activities

Crowdhelix and concentris were involved in communication and dissemination activities for the Helix event. Crowdhelix and concentris prepared promotional materials to be shared on social media and the project website, as shown in the screenshots below (**Figures 1-6**).



Figure 1. A website was created to announce the event, inform about the agenda and speakers, and allow people to register for the Second Helix Event.



A-TANGO CrowdHelix

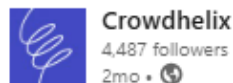
Industrial Perspective on Drug Development Challenges for Clinical Trials


DATE
4th June


TIME
11:00 AM CEST


PLACE
ONLINE

 This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 945096.



Check out our upcoming online Liver Health Helix Event with **A-TANGO**!


● Industrial Perspective on Drug Development Challenges for Clinical Trials ●

The event will act as a platform for sharing research results and experiences in drug development challenges in clinical trials and fostering potential collaborations between attendees.

Key Topics to be explored include:

- Communicate and disseminate the A-Tango project's results to a broader audience
- Connect industry and the scientific community to pinpoint drug development challenges in clinical trials collaboratively
- Showcase Liver Health Helix – a virtual collaboration community on the CrowdHelix platform for collaboration in the field.

 June 4th, 2025

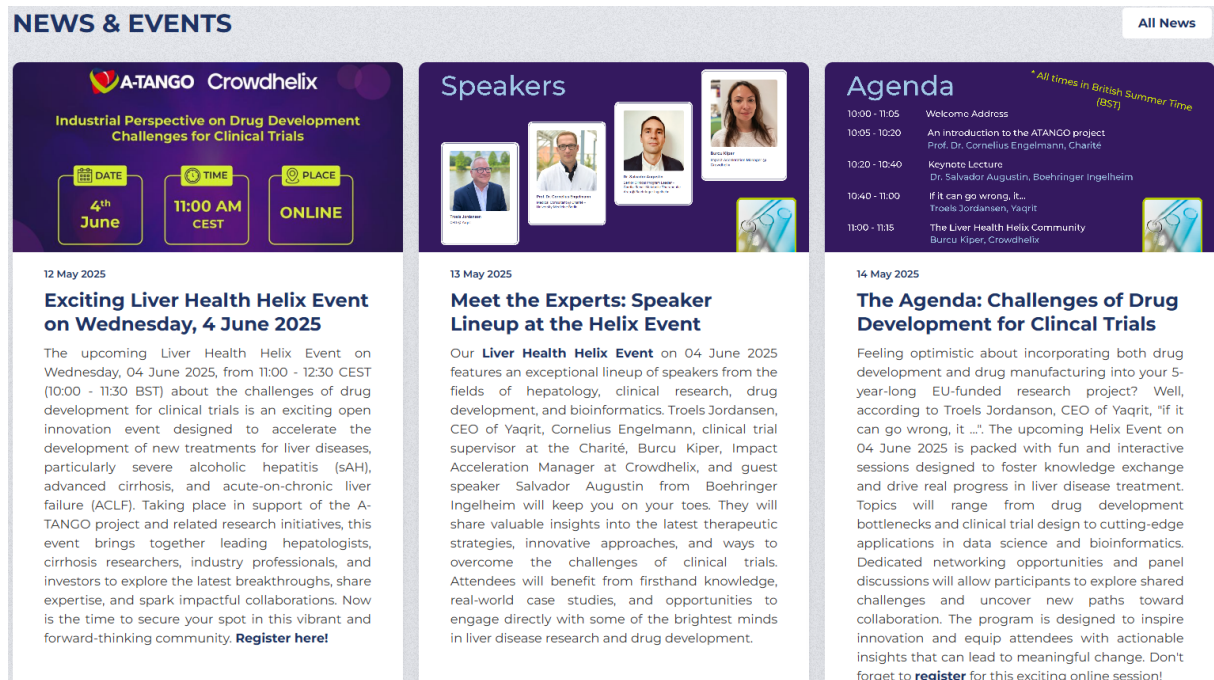
 10 am BST

Secure your spot:

<https://lnkd.in/eGS48W4X>

[#LiverHealth](#) [#ClinicalResearch](#)

Figure 2. CrowdHelix's initial announcement to promote the Second Helix Event on LinkedIn.



NEWS & EVENTS All News

A-TANGO CrowdHelix

Industrial Perspective on Drug Development Challenges for Clinical Trials

DATE
4th June

TIME
11:00 AM CEST

PLACE
ONLINE

12 May 2025

Exciting Liver Health Helix Event on Wednesday, 4 June 2025

The upcoming Liver Health Helix Event on Wednesday, 04 June 2025, from 11:00 - 12:30 CEST (10:00 - 11:30 BST) about the challenges of drug development for clinical trials is an exciting open innovation event designed to accelerate the development of new treatments for liver diseases, particularly severe alcoholic hepatitis (SAH), advanced cirrhosis, and acute-on-chronic liver failure (ACLF). Taking place in support of the A-TANGO project and related research initiatives, this event brings together leading hepatologists, cirrhosis researchers, industry professionals, and investors to explore the latest breakthroughs, share expertise, and spark impactful collaborations. Now is the time to secure your spot in this vibrant and forward-thinking community. **Register here!**

Speakers

13 May 2025

Meet the Experts: Speaker Lineup at the Helix Event

Our **Liver Health Helix Event** on 04 June 2025 features an exceptional lineup of speakers from the fields of hepatology, clinical research, drug development, and bioinformatics. Troels Jordansen, CEO of Yaqrit, Cornelius Engelmann, clinical trial supervisor at the Charité, Burcu Kiper, Impact Acceleration Manager at CrowdHelix, and guest speaker Salvador Augustin from Boehringer Ingelheim will keep you on your toes. They will share valuable insights into the latest therapeutic strategies, innovative approaches, and ways to overcome the challenges of clinical trials. Attendees will benefit from firsthand knowledge, real-world case studies, and opportunities to engage directly with some of the brightest minds in liver disease research and drug development.

Agenda

* All times in British Summer Time (BST)

10:00 - 11:05 Welcome Address

10:05 - 10:20 An introduction to the ATANGO project
Prof. Dr. Cornelius Engelmann, Charité

10:20 - 10:40 Keynote Lecture
Dr. Salvador Augustin, Boehringer Ingelheim

10:40 - 11:00 If it can go wrong, it...
Troels Jordansen, Yaqrit

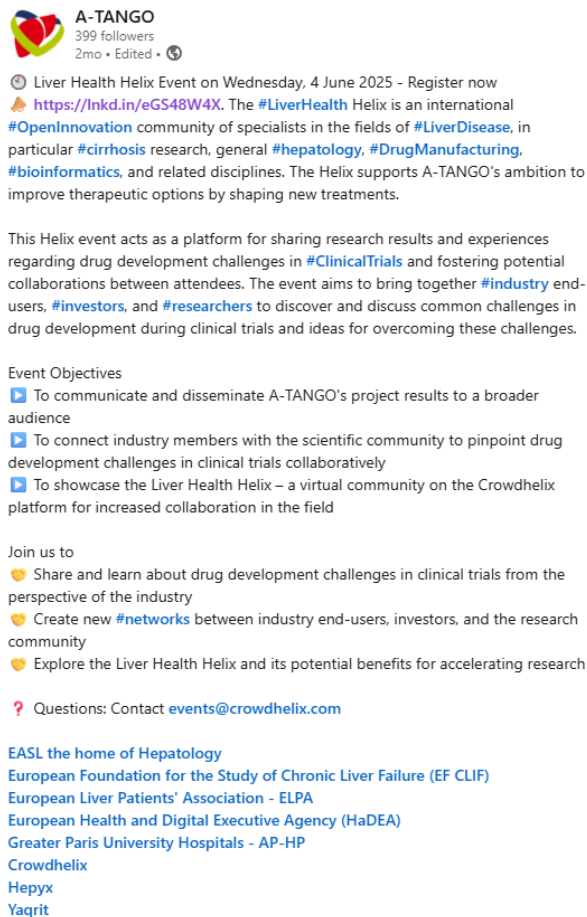
11:00 - 11:35 The Liver Health Helix Community
Burcu Kiper, CrowdHelix

14 May 2025

The Agenda: Challenges of Drug Development for Clinical Trials

Feeling optimistic about incorporating both drug development and drug manufacturing into your 5-year-long EU-funded research project? Well, according to Troels Jordansen, CEO of Yaqrit, "If it can go wrong, it ...". The upcoming Helix Event on 04 June 2025 is packed with fun and interactive sessions designed to foster knowledge exchange and drive real progress in liver disease treatment. Topics will range from drug development bottlenecks and clinical trial design to cutting-edge applications in data science and bioinformatics. Dedicated networking opportunities and panel discussions will allow participants to explore shared challenges and uncover new paths toward collaboration. The program is designed to inspire innovation and equip attendees with actionable insights that can lead to meaningful change. Don't forget to **register** for this exciting online session!

Figure 3. Prominent posts about the Second Helix Event on the homepage of the A-TANGO website.



A-TANGO
399 followers
2mo • Edited •

📌 Liver Health Helix Event on Wednesday, 4 June 2025 - Register now
🔗 <https://lnkd.in/gG548W4X>. The **#LiverHealth** Helix is an international **#OpenInnovation** community of specialists in the fields of **#LiverDisease**, in particular **#cirrhosis** research, general **#hepatology**, **#DrugManufacturing**, **#bioinformatics**, and related disciplines. The Helix supports A-TANGO's ambition to improve therapeutic options by shaping new treatments.

This Helix event acts as a platform for sharing research results and experiences regarding drug development challenges in **#ClinicalTrials** and fostering potential collaborations between attendees. The event aims to bring together **#industry** end-users, **#investors**, and **#researchers** to discover and discuss common challenges in drug development during clinical trials and ideas for overcoming these challenges.

Event Objectives

- ▶ To communicate and disseminate A-TANGO's project results to a broader audience
- ▶ To connect industry members with the scientific community to pinpoint drug development challenges in clinical trials collaboratively
- ▶ To showcase the Liver Health Helix – a virtual community on the CrowdHelix platform for increased collaboration in the field

Join us to

- 👉 Share and learn about drug development challenges in clinical trials from the perspective of the industry
- 👉 Create new **#networks** between industry end-users, investors, and the research community
- 👉 Explore the Liver Health Helix and its potential benefits for accelerating research

? Questions: Contact events@crowdhelix.com

EASL the home of Hepatology
European Foundation for the Study of Chronic Liver Failure (EF CLIF)
European Liver Patients' Association - ELPA
European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA)
Greater Paris University Hospitals - AP-HP
CrowdHelix
Hepyx
Yaqrit



Agenda

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10:40 - 11:00 If it can go wrong, it...
Troels Jordansen, Yaqrit

11:00 - 11:35 The Liver Health Helix Community
Burcu Kiper, CrowdHelix


0:12 1x

You and 16 others 2 comments • 10 reposts

Figure 4. A video-clip and post promoting the event was also shared on A-TANGO's LinkedIn account.

 **Burcu Kiper** for CrowdHelix
2 ay önce in Health, Announcements, Liver Health

Register for Webinar | A-Tango Project - Industrial Perspective on Drug Development Challenges for Clinical Trials

 **A-TANGO**

Seeking collaborator:

Event Attendee

Seeking expertise:

Hepatology Clinical trials Drug development

Acute-on-chronic liver failure Liver health


Acif therapy

Industrial Perspective on Drug Development
Challenges for Clinical Trials A-Tango Project
consortium invites all to join the Liver Health Helix ev...

[Learn more...](#)

Funded by the European Union


Figure 5. The event was also shared directly on the Liver Health Helix with all community members.

 **A-TANGO Project** @a-tango.bsky.social · 2mo
🔥 Secure your spot now 🔥 : inevent.uk/en/Crowdheli...


Check out our upcoming (online) A-TANGO #LiverHealth Helix Event!

- Industrial Perspective on #DrugDevelopment Challenges for #ClinicalTrials
- 📅 04 June 2025
- 🕒 Begin: 10 am BST

#ClinicalResearch
@rajivjalan.bsky.social
@easnews.bsky.social




1 2 4

 **A-TANGO Project** @a-tango.bsky.social · 2mo
The #LiverHealth Helix Event acts as a platform for sharing experiences regarding #DrugDevelopment challenges in #ClinicalTrials + fostering collaboration between attendees.

Key Objectives:


- Communicate A-TANGO's results
- Connect industry & scientific community
- Showcase the Liver Health Helix

3

 **A-TANGO Project** @a-tango.bsky.social · 2mo
Join this exciting event!

Don't miss our #OpenInnovation event, uniting experts in #DrugDevelopment, #bioinformatics, and #hepatology. Connect with researchers, industry professionals, and investors to share insights & explore collaboration opportunities!

Register now: inevent.uk/en/Crowdheli...



4 5

Figure 6. The event was also actively promoted through several posts on the new BlueSky Social channel of A-TANGO and helped the project to gain followers there (after the consortium had unanimously decided to close down the project's X account earlier this year).

3.3 Summary of the Event on 4 June 2025

The Helix Event “Industrial Perspective on Drug Development Challenges for Clinical Trials” was organised on June 4, 2025. **Thirty-seven people had registered** for the webinar, with **fifteen participants** actually joining the event. Attendees included stakeholders from France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Romania, Turkey, and the UK. The participating organisations were:

1. University of Twente
2. Yaqrit
3. Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy
4. Genfit
5. Day One
6. University College London (UCL)
7. Boehringer Ingelheim
8. Charité – University Medicine Berlin (Charité)
9. Dokuz Eylul University
10. King's College London

The event was moderated by the A-TANGO project coordinator **Dr. Rajiv Jalan, UCL**. The A-TANGO project was introduced by **Prof. Dr. Cornelius Engelmann, Medical Consultant, Charité**. In his presentation, Prof. Engelmann highlighted the lack of treatment options for decompensated cirrhosis and acute-on-chronic liver failure (ACLF), emphasizing the high morbidity and mortality associated with these conditions globally and the complexity of ACLF. He also discussed future potential therapies for ACLF and outlined the components of the A-TANGO project, which included the design and objectives of the clinical trial and the A-TANGO score.

Keynote speakers included **Troels Jordansen, CEO of Yaqrit**, and **Dr. Salvador Augustin, Senior Clinical Program Leader in the Cardio-Renal-Metabolic Therapeutic Area at Boehringer Ingelheim**. Troels Jordansen, with over 30 years of global healthcare experience, presented an overview of clinical trials, their significance in drug development, and examined potential successes and pitfalls in clinical trials from an industry perspective. Dr. Augustin, a hepatologist with over 20 years of clinical and academic experience, has been with the pharmaceutical industry since 2020 as a Global Medical Director, focusing on leadership roles in the Cardio-Renal-Metabolic field, particularly concerning liver indications. He shared insights into the industry's requirements for preparing pre-clinical and clinical research aimed at future drug approval, highlighting how these requirements differ from academic approaches, particularly in terms of biomarkers, patient selection, endpoints, disease definitions, and regulatory considerations.

Following the keynote speakers, **Cais Jurgens, Head of Membership Development at Crowdhelix**, presented the Crowdhelix platform and the Liver Health Helix, highlighting its potential to facilitate collaboration and knowledge sharing among experts, research organizations, and industry entities.

The Helix Event served as a platform for interaction between the scientific community and industry, aiming to inform attendees about the A-TANGO project's results and the potential impact of the research conducted.

Following the event, CHX and concentris shared a (confidential / unlisted) **video recording** with all registrants (**Figures 7-10**), ensuring that those who were unable to attend the event during the designated time-slot, could still access and view the content afterwards. Additionally, participants were invited to subscribe to the A-TANGO and Crowdhelix newsletters, further increasing the chances of disseminating information about the project. During the event, registrants were also informed about the opportunity to join the Liver Health Helix community to stay updated on A-TANGO's activities.

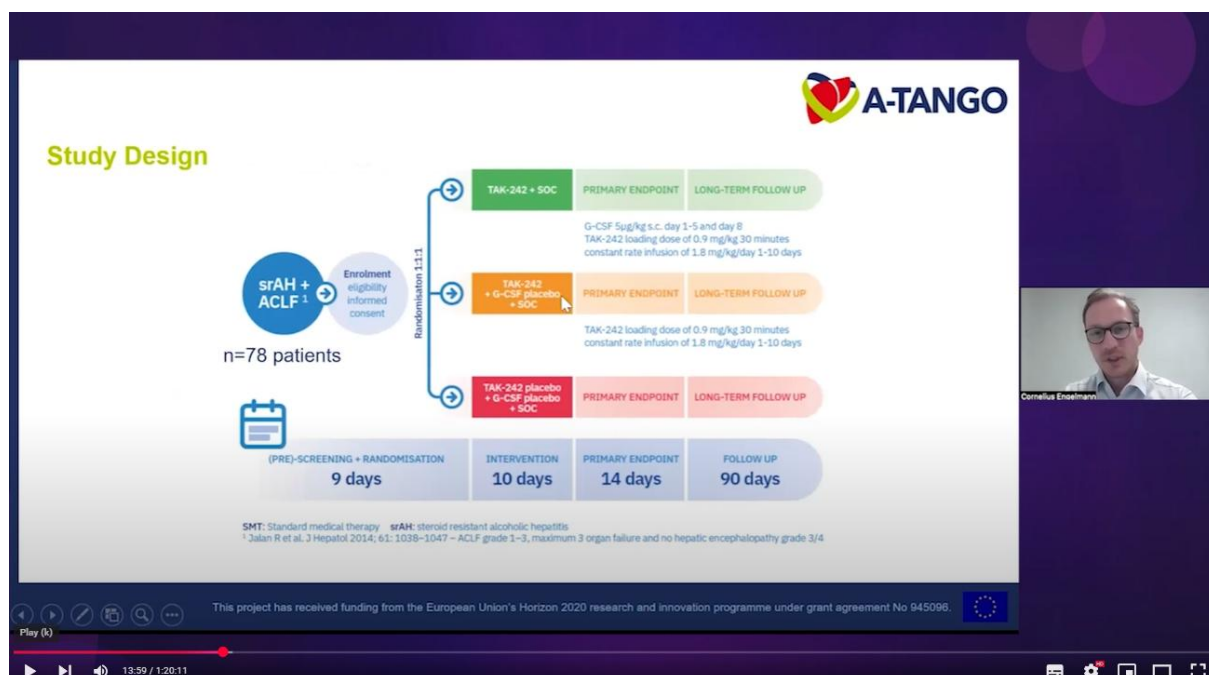


Figure 7. Screenshot of Prof. Dr. Cornelius Engelmann (Charité) presenting the design of A-TANGO's clinical G-TAK study.

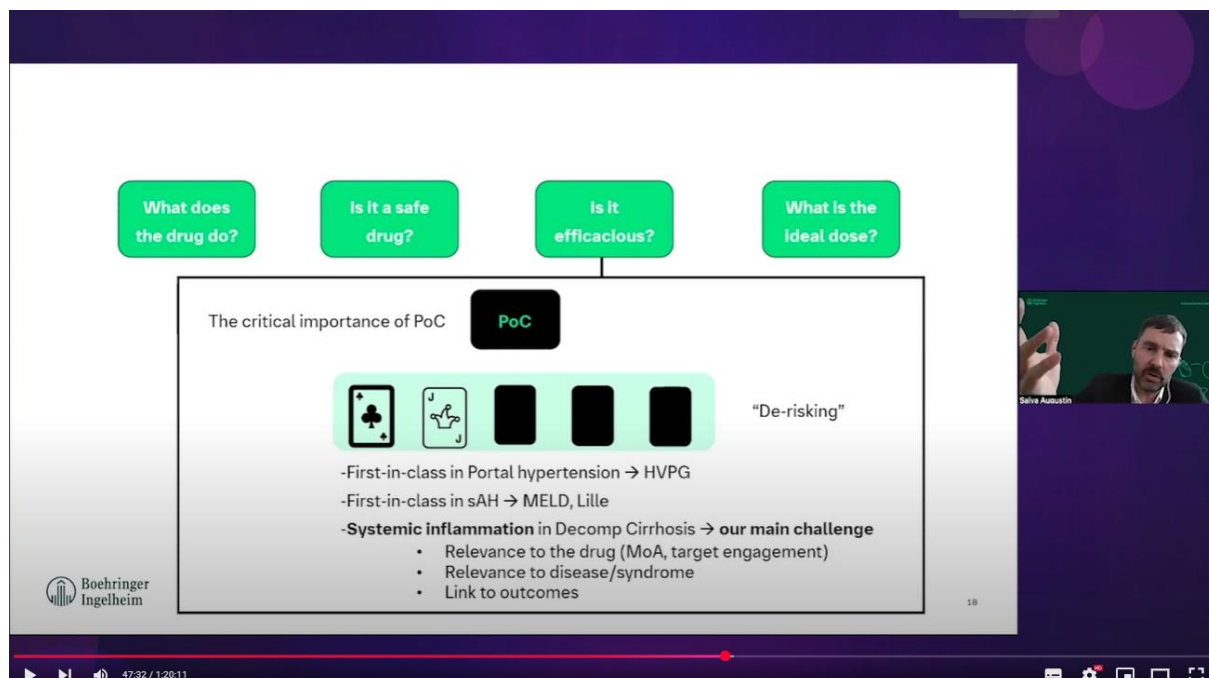


Figure 8. Screenshot of Dr. Salvador Augustin (Boehringer Ingelheim) discussing with the participants what makes a novel drug successful.

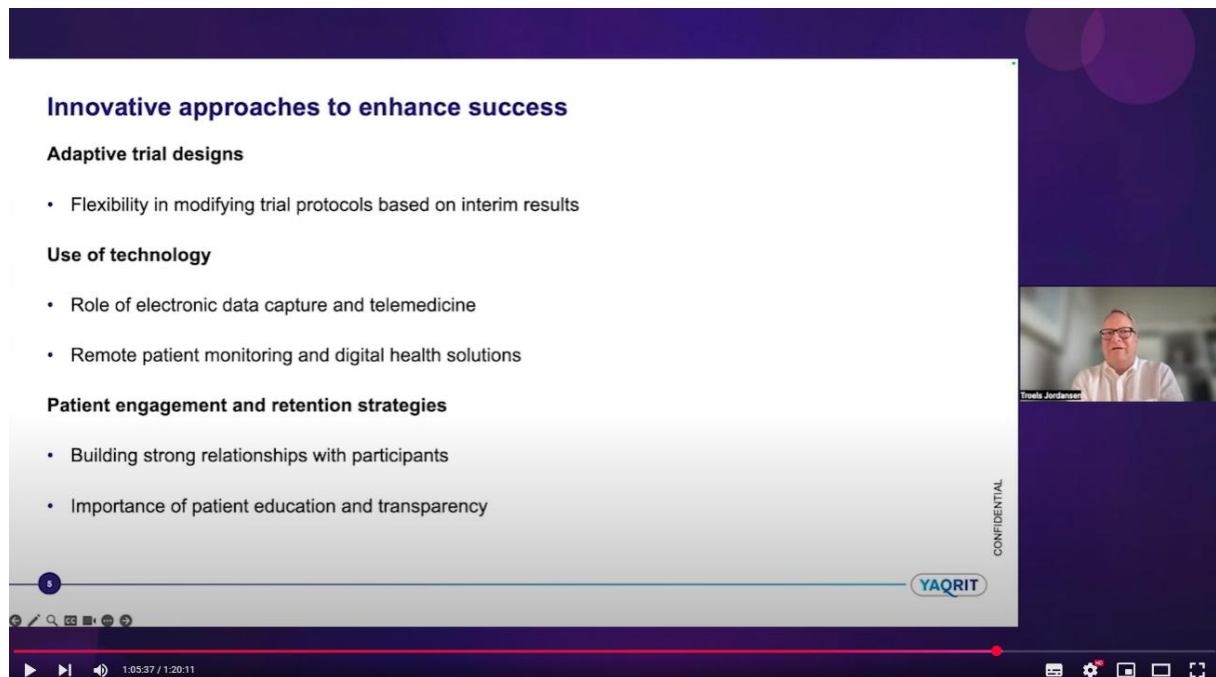


Figure 9. Screenshot of Troels Jordansen (CEO of Yaqrit) speaking about the industry perspective and about what aspects are important to enhance the success of a clinical trial in the modern world.

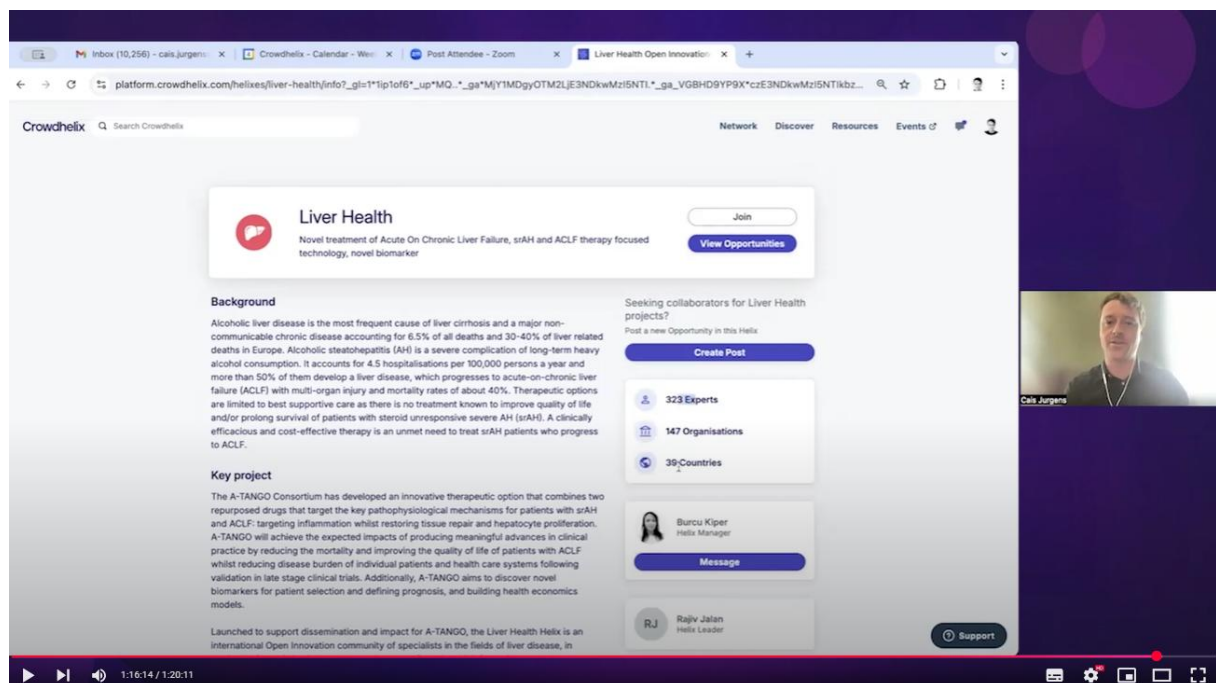


Figure 10. Screenshot of Cais Jurgens (CrowdHelix) during his live-demonstration of the Liver Health Helix, introducing what type of services and opportunities it offers for the liver research community as well as for industry experts.

4 Conclusion

The Second Helix Event successfully served as an interactive webinar for connecting the scientific community with industry members, created active discussion, and informed attendees about A-TANGO's aims, results, status of the clinical trial (starting soon), and the potential impact of the study.

5 Acknowledgement and Disclaimer

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 945096 (A-TANGO). This report reflects only the authors' view and the European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.

6 Appendix

Please see the detailed event agenda below.

Agenda

Industrial Perspective on Drug Development Challenges for Clinical Trials Helix Event

4 June 2025 10:00-11:30

10:00 - 10:05 Welcome Address

Speaker: Dr. Rajiv Jalan, University College London

10:05 - 10:20 An introduction to the A-TANGO project

Speaker: Prof. Dr. Cornelius Engelmann, Medical Consultant, Charité – University Medicine Berlin

10:20 - 10:40 Keynote session

Speaker: Dr. Salvador Augustin, Senior Clinical Program Leader - Cardio-Renal-Metabolic Therapeutic Area, Boehringer Ingelheim

10:40 - 11:00 If it can go wrong, it ...

Speaker: Troels Jordansen, CEO of Yaqrit

11:00 - 11:15 The Liver Health Helix Community

Speaker: Cais Jurgens, Head of Membership Development, Crowdhelix

11:20 Closing of the event