



EATRIS – European Advanced Translational Research Institute in Medicine

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Objective: to develop new innovative technologies, products and treatment options for patients; in order to generate new solutions, basic research have to be translated into clinical applications.

Methods: EATRIS is staffed by a small team of professionals who run the core EATRIS function of Coordination and Support from Amsterdam. By defragmenting the biomedical expertise scattered across Europe, a new and powerful resource is made available to large and small companies, charities, research institutions and governments. EATRIS greatly improves the projects' scientific “firepower” by tailoring it very precisely to sources of expertise, technology, and patients.

Results: EATRIS, founded in 2008 by a number of European Union member countries and leading research centers, is the first research infrastructure in Biomedical Sciences to receive the »European Research Infrastructure Consortium« status. The Faculty of Pharmacy (University of Ljubljana) is the EATRIS representative of Slovenia, which currently holds an observer status. The aim is to optimize the route from discovery to proof-of-concept with a unique range of expertise in extensive partnership of academic translational centers which offer:

- Translational focus providing support from discovery to clinical trial (Phase I/IIa)
- Access to the latest discoveries and technologies
- Access to the highest quality facilities
- Access to large and diverse patient groups
- EATRIS is focused on five product platforms: advanced therapy medicinal products; biomarkers; small molecules; molecular imaging and tracers; and vaccines.

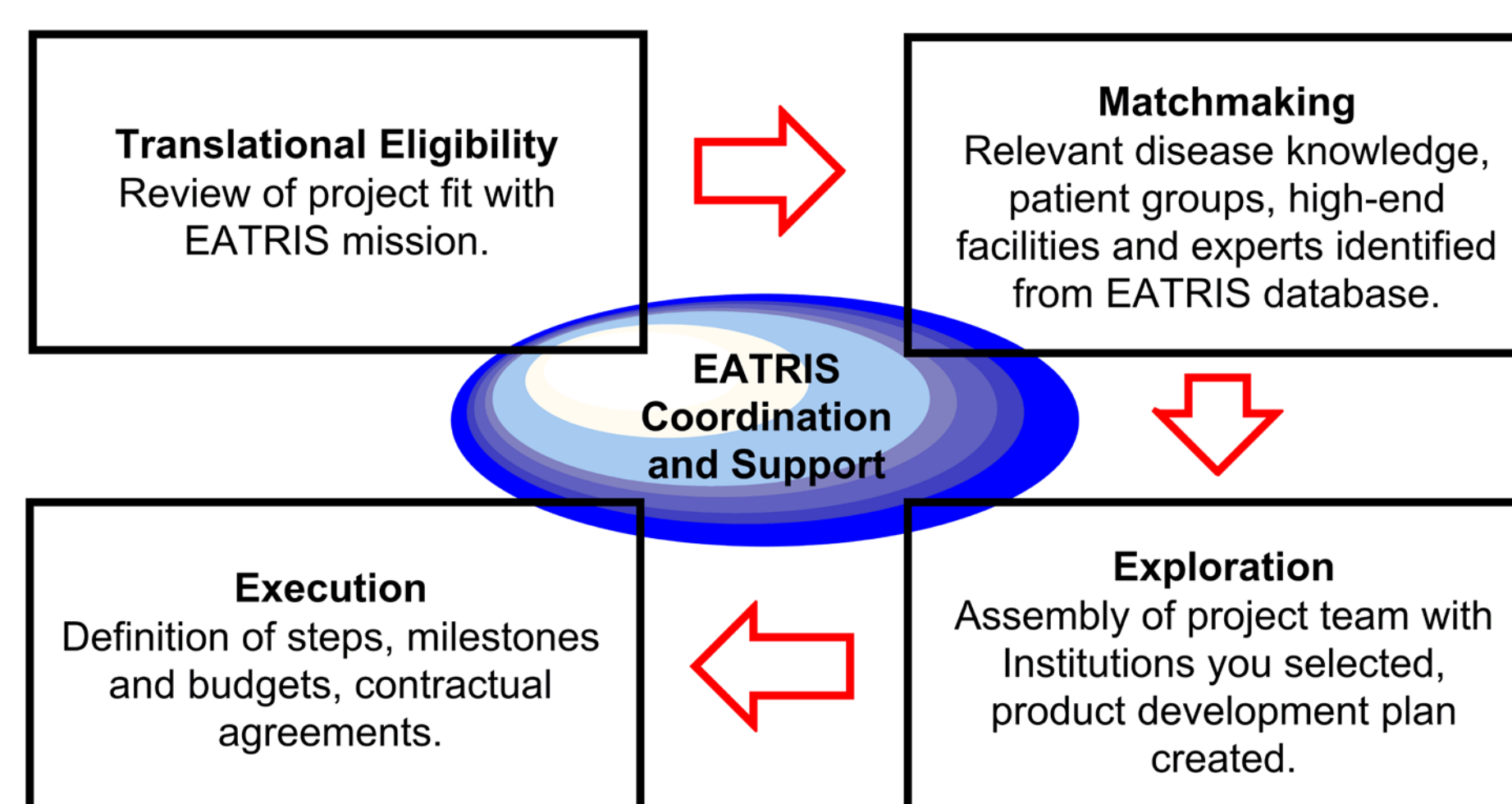


Figure 1. EATRIS project initiation and execution

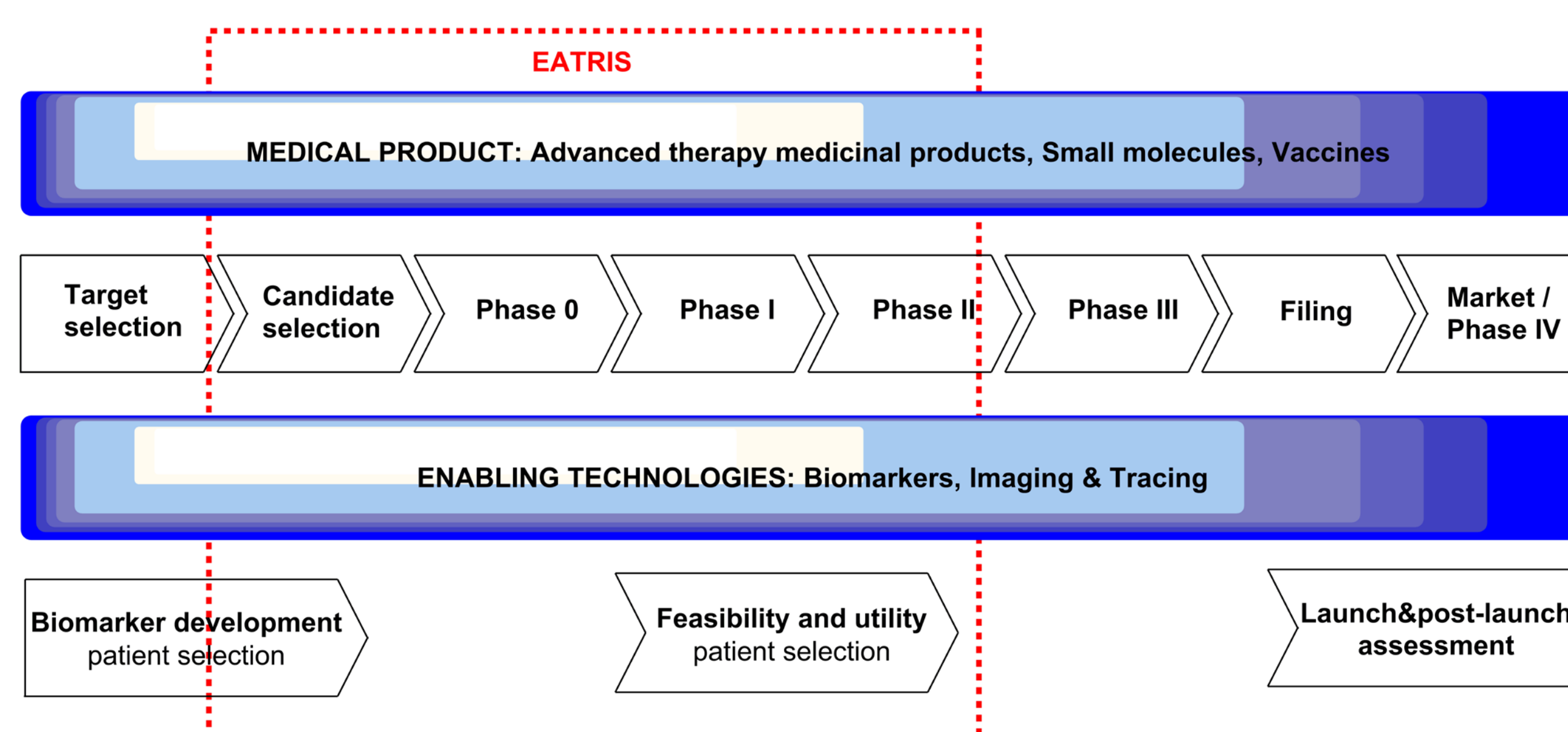


Figure 2. Optimizing the route from discovery to proof-of-concept

Conclusions: Throughout Europe, there is an increasing incidence of cancer, cardiovascular and other diseases like Alzheimer due to higher life expectancy and changes in lifestyle. At the same time the cost for drug development has risen significantly, with declining innovation. EATRIS is facilitating the development process for drugs and diagnostics, helping raise the quality of life for Europeans, by providing access to over 60 academic institutions which offer the entire spectrum of research accessible through one portal.