

MRM Health rewarded a €2.6M VLAIO Research Grant to accelerate the development of novel therapeutics that redefine the treatment of immune-mediated inflammatory diseases

Funding supports cutting-edge microbiome research that, by uncovering how the microbiome and the immune system interact during inflammation, enables the development of disease-modifying therapies designed to harness the microbiome and restore immune balance

- 3-year collaborative program with leading Belgian academic experts in the field of clinical and microbiome research
- Program will provide MRM Health with novel key scientific insights into bacterial constellations driving the development of inflammatory diseases
- Funding accelerates the discovery and development of significantly safe, oral Live Biotherapeutic Products (LBPs) for the treatment of various immune-mediated inflammatory diseases

Ghent, Belgium – May 28, 2026 – MRM Health, a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company developing therapeutics for immune-mediated diseases, which unlock the power of the microbiome to restore immune balance, today announced that it has been awarded a research grant of €2.6M from Flanders Innovation and Entrepreneurship (VLAIO), a government organization with the goal to stimulate economic development in Flanders, Belgium. The three-year, non-dilutive grant will advance research on gut ecosystem remediation and modification of diseases driven by a dysbiotic inflammatory microbiome while accelerating the development of MRM Health's therapeutics from preclinical discovery toward clinical proof-of-concept and future patient access.

The program brings together MRM Health with leading academic partners, including Prof. Jeroen Raes (KU Leuven / VIB), Prof. Dr. Dirk Elewaut (UGent / VIB), Prof. Dr. Bram Verstockt (KU Leuven / IBD Leuven), and Prof. Dr. João Sabino (KU Leuven/ IBD Leuven). The collaboration will leverage access to unique clinical samples and datasets to generate novel insights into microbiome-driven inflammation and the bacterial ecosystems underlying disease.

By integrating microbial ecology with host physiology, the project aims to identify and modulate disease-driving bacterial constellations, while elucidating how these ecosystems transition between health and disease. This knowledge is expected to fuel the development of optimized microbial consortia capable of reducing inflammation while correcting microbial dysbiosis, ultimately delivering preclinical LBP candidates.

Katja Conrath, PhD, Chief Scientific Officer at MRM Health, commented: "VLAIO's support enables us to combine our proprietary CORAL® platform with the deep scientific and clinical expertise of our academic partners. This project will generate critical insights into disease-driving microbiome ecosystems and support the development of targeted, de-risked LBPs for inflammatory diseases with high unmet need. We are grateful to VLAIO for its continued support, which will strengthen our capabilities to progressing this innovative program."

Prof. Jeroen Raes, Professor at KU Leuven and Vice Director VIB Center for Microbiology at VIB, added: "This collaboration allows us to integrate cutting-edge microbiome science with clinical data, improving our understanding of how microbial ecosystems drive inflammation and how they can be therapeutically reshaped."

Prof. Dr. João Sabino, Gastroenterologist at UZ Leuven and Principal Investigator at IBD Leuven, said: "Translating microbiome-derived effects into mechanistic pathway insights in patients represents a critical



advance for the field.” **Prof. Dr. Bram Verstockt, Gastroenterologist at UZ Leuven and Principal Investigator at IBD Leuven**, added: “The availability of innovative, non-immunosuppressive therapeutic options emerging from this work is highly valued within the IBD community.”

The project creates a significant opportunity for the development of safe, oral, microbiome-based therapies with disease-modifying potential. These therapies could serve as non-immunosuppressive backbone treatments across multiple inflammatory indications, supporting long-term disease control and improved patient outcomes.

About MRM Health

MRM Health is a clinical-stage biotech developing innovative microbiome-based Live Biotherapeutic Products for chronic inflammatory diseases with high unmet needs. Its CORAL® platform enables the design and manufacture of disease-focused microbial consortia with enhanced efficacy and scalability. In addition to advancing lead program MH002 into pivotal clinical development in ulcerative colitis and the orphan disease indication, pouchitis, MRM Health has ongoing preclinical programs in other inflammatory diseases and immune-oncology. In September 2025, MRM Health successfully closed a 55M€ Series B round led by Biocodex, with strong support from ATHOS, BNP Paribas Fortis Private Equity and existing investors SFPIM, AvH, OMX Europe VF, QBic and VIB.

For more information, please follow us on [LinkedIn](#) or visit the website at www.mrmhealth.com.

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