

**The Mondriaan project:
The Dutch health care landscape
as a population laboratory**



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1. Introduction

Main goal

The Mondriaan Project aims to provide a to integrate and to enrich existing and new health care data platforms in order to fuel pharmaceutical research in The Netherlands and to play an internationally competitive role in drug innovation.

Summary

The Mondriaan project (Full title: The Mondriaan Project: The Dutch health care landscape ad a 'population laboratory') is an approved project in theme 6 of TI Pharma.

The ambition of Mondriaan is to create "A grid to integrate and to enrich existing and new health data platforms in order to fuel pharmaceutical research in The Netherlands and to play an internationally competitive role in drug intelligence and innovation". To achieve this, a number of challenges need to be met. These include; the need to combine existing databases in the Netherlands into a common framework; to analyze and update/optimize existing collection of data and acquire new access to health care data; to find optimal technological solutions for access, protection and storage of health care data either at a single or multiple locations; to design a structure to make best scientific use of the data both for academic and industrial partners; to create a legal and financial basis for long term continuation of Mondriaan as an institute with national and international impact.

2. Project progress

In the past six months the following has been achieved

- With several possible partners discussions have been initiated about ways to participate in Mondriaan. In brief, this would imply a collective environment for data storage and handling with a front office and a back office. The front office would be the liaison with (separately) industrial and academic institutions with requests for analyses based on Mondriaan data. The back office would create and maintain optimal relationships with the parties providing the health care data, a.o. by offering standardized feedback on data quality and selected indicators. The agreement was achieved in a number of meetings between the principal investigator of Mondriaan and the Pharmo Institute board of directors. In addition, the services of an external advisor were hired.
- Alternative or additional opportunities for data collection in the Netherlands were explored. In particular initiatives undertaken by the Dutch government aiming at a “Landelijk Schakel Punt”, a national central patient file with key medical data, appear to create important opportunities. Collaboration with these national initiatives could in particular provide a research infrastructure that is sustainable even after the Mondriaan funding period by aiming at generic technology to access health care data and avoiding proprietary solutions of specific partners. While this is a process that may take significant time to be fully implemented, conceptually the availability of central patient data to be linked to (or included in) Mondriaan offers a great potential. Mondriaan has been advised in this regard by Marc Rietveld, an health care information technologist, who also prepared a number of strategic documents on this issue.
- Explorative contacts were made with a number of Dutch companies involved in health care related information technology. In the coming months the nature and viability of possible collaboration within the Mondriaan framework will be determined further.
- It was decided that the best way to move matters forward now that some initial ways to go have been delineated, is to install a project management team to be responsible for the day to day management and implementation of Mondriaan. The following domains were considered important to be covered by expertise in the project management team:
 - Business development
 - Science
 - Project management
 - Information technology

As of June 1, four well qualified people have been contracted (most on a part time basis) to together guarantee the successful launch of Mondriaan. In addition a small support staff will be allocated.

3. Project plan

Plans for the first year are:

- Continue and conclude discussions with current partners in Mondriaan as to their respective roles and responsibilities
- Work out conditions for participation and implement an organizational structure according to which database managers are confident to become part of Mondriaan
- Work out a legal and governance (also scientific) structure that best fits the long term ambitions of Mondriaan
- Work out various options for access, control and protection of data
- Start with small scale implementation of a research infrastructure that will produce one or two proofs of principle within the first year to demonstrate the potential of the Mondriaan concept.
- Work out a business model to guarantee the long term prospects of Mondriaan
- Establish a website and other materials to market the Mondriaan project and make its inception and potential known to a wider audience