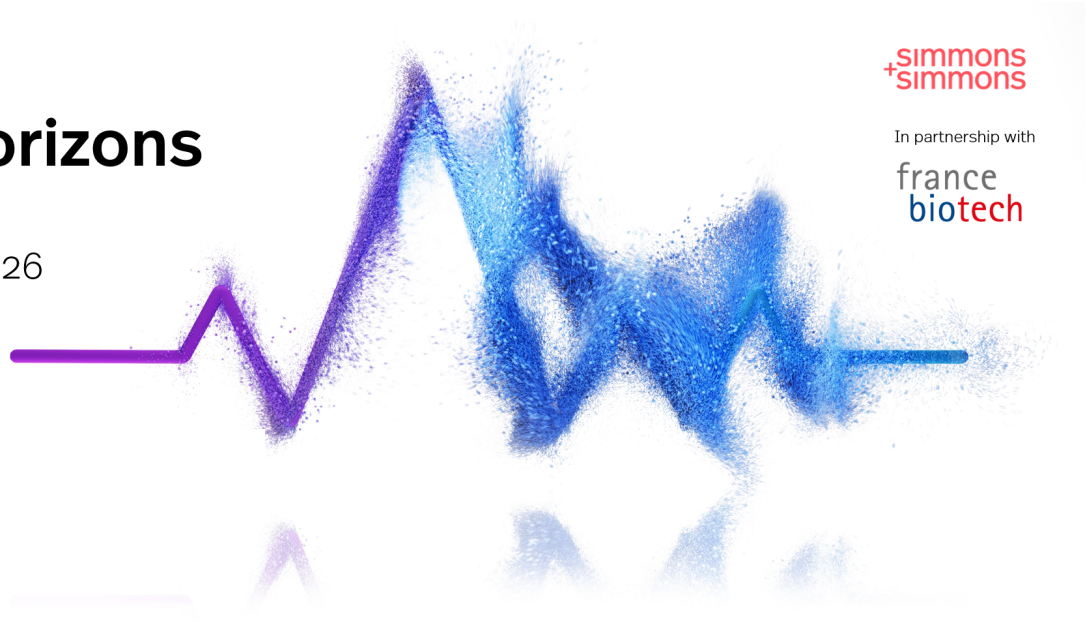
Health Horizons

24 November 2026



simmons+simmons

In partnership with france biotech

Programme

08:30 - 10:00	**Registration and breakfast**
10:00 - 10:05 *Auditorium*	**Conference opening:** Alexandre Regniault, head of Healthcare and life sciences, Simmons & Simmons and **Frédéric Girard**, President of France Biotech
10:05 - 10:25 *Auditorium*	**Keynote: Europe: capitulate, consolidate, compete?** **Bertin Nahum**, Chairman, Quantum Surgical
10:25 - 11:10 *Auditorium*	**Panel discussion #1:** **Trends: Can Europe keep pace with US capital velocity in healthcare?** Moderated by Frances Doherty, Partner, Simmons & Simmons Dealmaking is accelerating again, with life sciences M&A jumping to $240bn in 2025 and alliance "biobucks" hitting record levels as big pharma hunts for late-stage, de-risked innovation. How is Europe performing globally? Europe's capital markets are often compared unfavourably to the US. Is this a fair comparison, or are there hidden strengths? What structural, cultural, and financial barriers prevent Europe from scaling global champions? Guest speakers include: • **Ekaterina Almasque**, Founding Partner, BlankPage Capital • **Peter Mountney**, Global Vice President of Artificial Intelligence, Olympus and CEO, Odin Vision • **Katie Lockwood**, Co-founding Partner, Twin Path Ventures
11:10 - 11:40 *Atrium*	**Break**

11:40 - 12:25
Auditorium

Panel discussion #2:
Key deal trends in life sciences: how partnerships are reshaping pipelines and investment strategies

Moderated by Michael Gavey, Partner, Simmons & Simmons

Strategic partnerships have become biopharma's fastest route to growth – often faster than own drug discovery, safer than full acquisitions, and increasingly global. In 2025, life sciences M&A rebounded sharply and alliances hit record levels, reflecting an industry racing to secure best-in-class innovation while limiting upfront risk. At the same time, China captured 34% of alliance investment and AI is reshaping how partners source, diligence, and integrate deals. How to structure partnerships that actually deliver - scientifically, operationally, and financially?

Guest speakers include:

- **Laurence Barker**, Partner, SV - Dementia Discovery Fund
- **Jeremy Griggs**, Executive Director, Business Development, GSK
- **Angela Columbano**, Head of Business Development and Partnership, Généthon

12:25 – 14:00
Atrium

Lunch

14:00 - 14:45
Auditorium

Panel discussion #3:
Life sciences real estate: investing at the crossroads of capital, innovation and infrastructure

Moderated by Elisa Bocianowski, Partner, Simmons & Simmons

As demand for cutting-edge labs and innovation hubs accelerates, life sciences real estate is emerging as a highly strategic asset class. Alongside investment and development, leasing models for specialised lab space are rapidly evolving - raising new questions around tenant needs, risk allocation and flexibility.

This roundtable brings together investors, developers and industry leaders to explore the opportunities and challenges in financing, building and leasing the next generation of life sciences infrastructure.

Guest speakers include:

- **Thomas Renn**, SVP, Head of Europe, Breakthrough Properties
- **George Beaton**, Director EMEA Life Sciences Research, JLL
- **Paul Darribère**, Global Head of Healthcare and Hospitality, BNP Paribas REIM
- **Guillaume Tessler**, Deputy CEO and Head of Real Estate, Eurvale

14:45 - 15:10
Auditorium

Fireside chat: Financing Public Health

An interview of **Dr Jean-David Zeitoun**, MD, PhD, Founding partner, Inato by Alexandre Regniault, head of Healthcare and life sciences, Simmons & Simmons

15:10 - 15:40
Atrium

Coffee break

15:40 - 16:00
Auditorium

Fireside chat: The evolution of funding sources in Healthcare & Life Sciences

An interview of **Robert Rozemulder,** Managing Director, Rothschild & Co by Fabian von Samson-Himmelstjerna, Partner, Simmons & Simmons

16:00 – 16:40
Auditorium

Panel discussion #4:

Capital preservation: winning strategies for funds investing in healthcare and life sciences

Moderated by Thierry Somma, Partner, Simmons & Simmons

In an environment marked by market volatility, longer development cycles, and more selective capital flows, preserving capital has become as critical as generating returns in healthcare and life sciences investing. From managing clinical and regulatory risk to navigating valuation resets, funds are rethinking how they deploy and protect capital across the investment lifecycle. This roundtable will explore winning strategies to safeguard downside while maintaining upside potential, with a particular focus on disciplined portfolio construction, active asset management, and the importance of clearly defined exit strategies–from strategic M&A to IPOs–in an increasingly uncertain market.

Guest speakers include:

- **Arnaud Vincent**, Managing director, Eurazeo
- **Dr.-Ing. Christian Goergen**, Founding & Managing Partner, Catalpa Ventures
- **Nicolas Di Prata,** Investment Officer, European Investment Bank

16:40 - 17:00
Auditorium

Closing keynote:

Investing in a challenging sector because one win changes the world

Francis Marsland, Founder and Chief Legal Officer, ICE Biopharma GmbH

17:00 - 18:30
Atrium

Refreshments and networking