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The socioeconomic impact of in-silico models for implantable medical devices: a conceptual framework

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- Introduction
- What are in-silico models?
- Methodological approach
- Preliminary results
- Conclusion



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SIMCor – In-Silico testing and validation of Cardiovascular Implantable devices

- funded by the **European Union’s H2020 research and innovation program** (grant agreement No 101017578)
- consists of 10 work packages and 12 consortium partners from 8 European countries



Fig. 1: Pulmonary artery pressure sensor (PAPS)

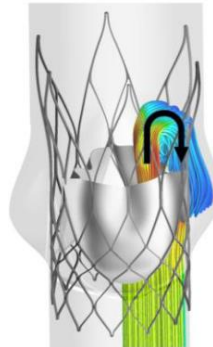


Fig. 2: Transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVI)

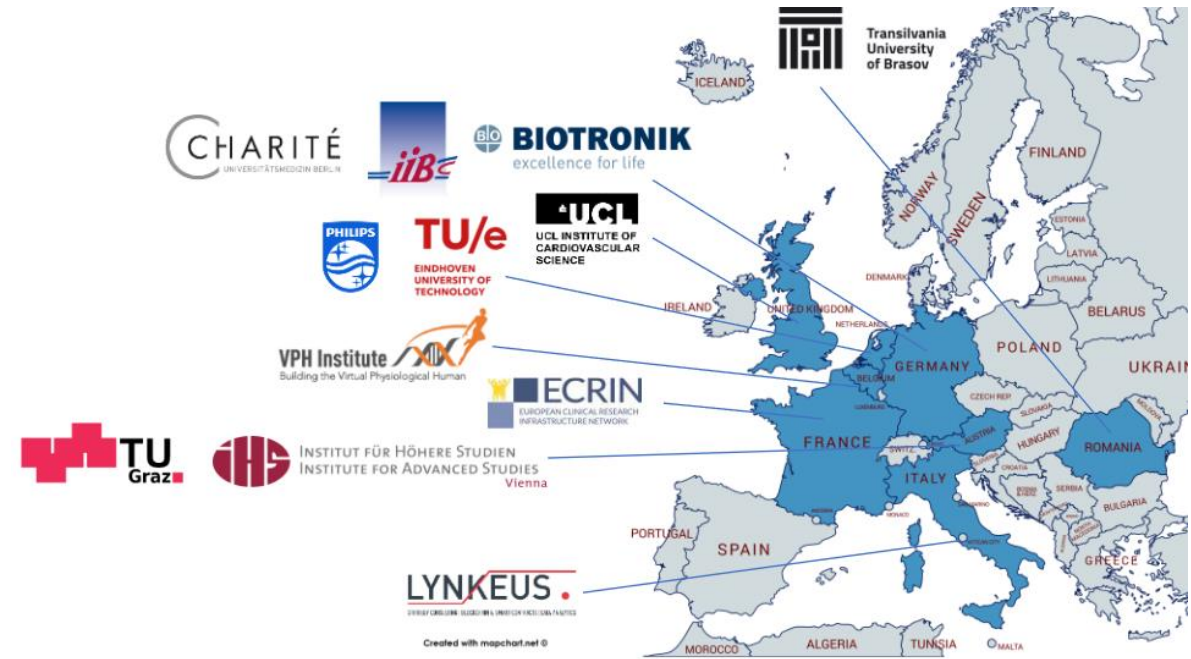


Fig. 3: Consortium partners SIMCor

What are in-silico models?

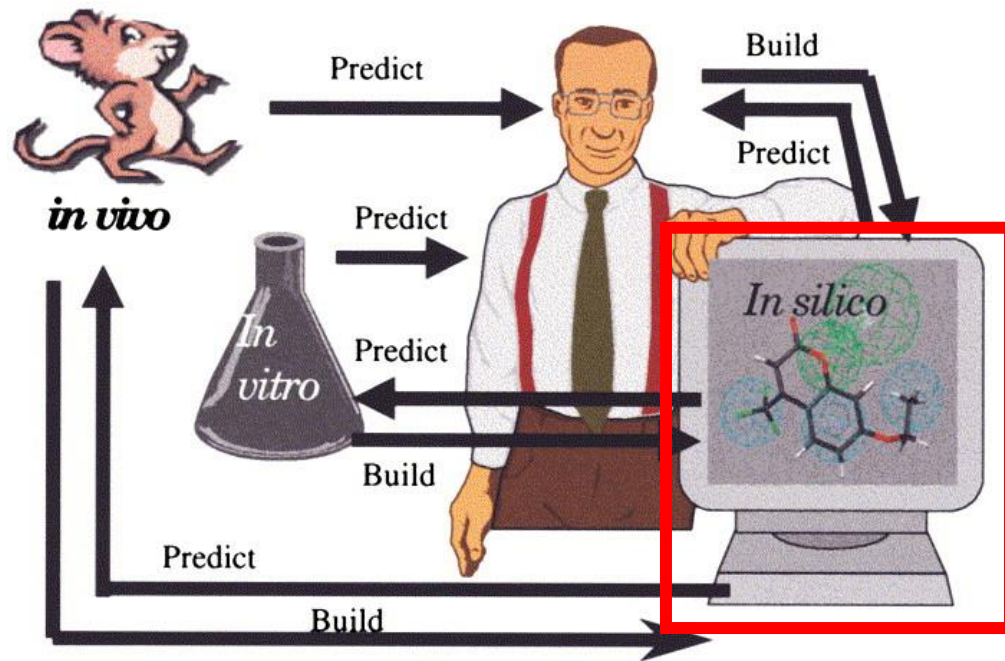


Fig. 4: Source: Ekins, S., & Wrighton, S. A. (2001). Application of in silico approaches to predicting drug–drug interactions. *Journal of pharmacological and toxicological methods*, 45(1), 65-69

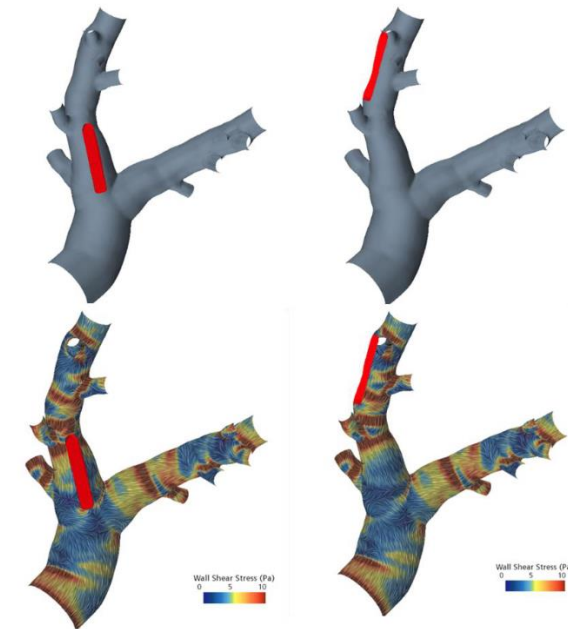
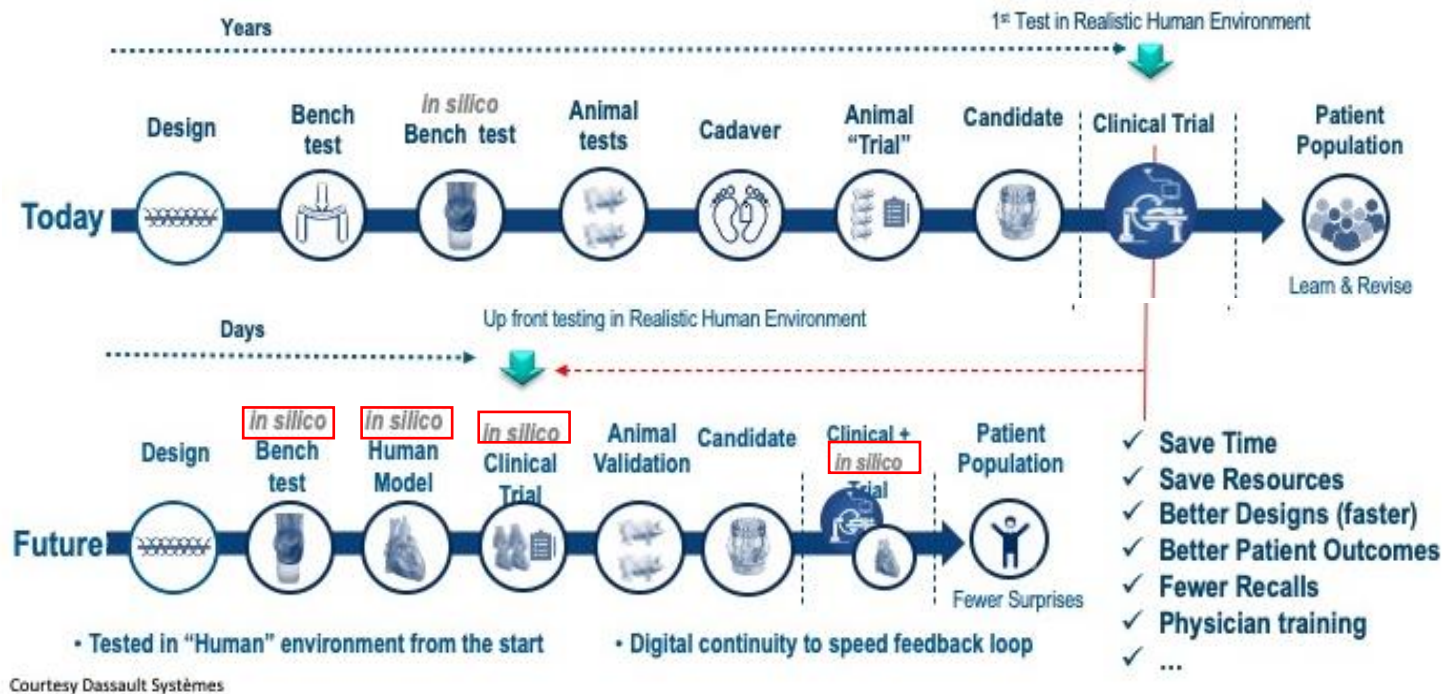


Fig. 5: Source: SIMCor Deliverable 7.5 – Uncertainty quantification and re-definition of input space

Medical development cycle of medical devices



Research Question
What are the potential impacts of in-silico technologies on firms, markets, health systems and society?

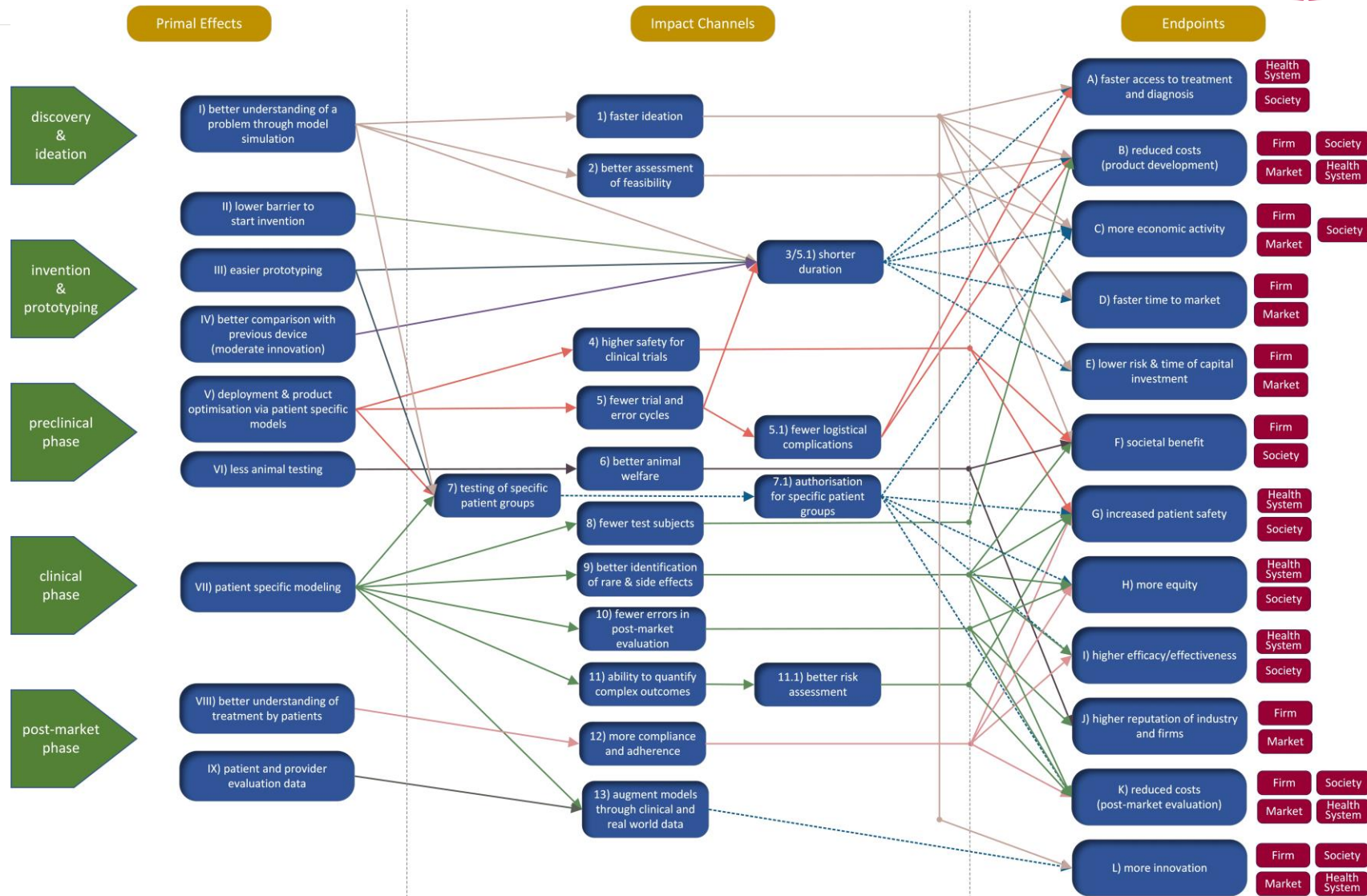


Fig. 6: Potential effect of in-silico models on medical development cycle of medical devices

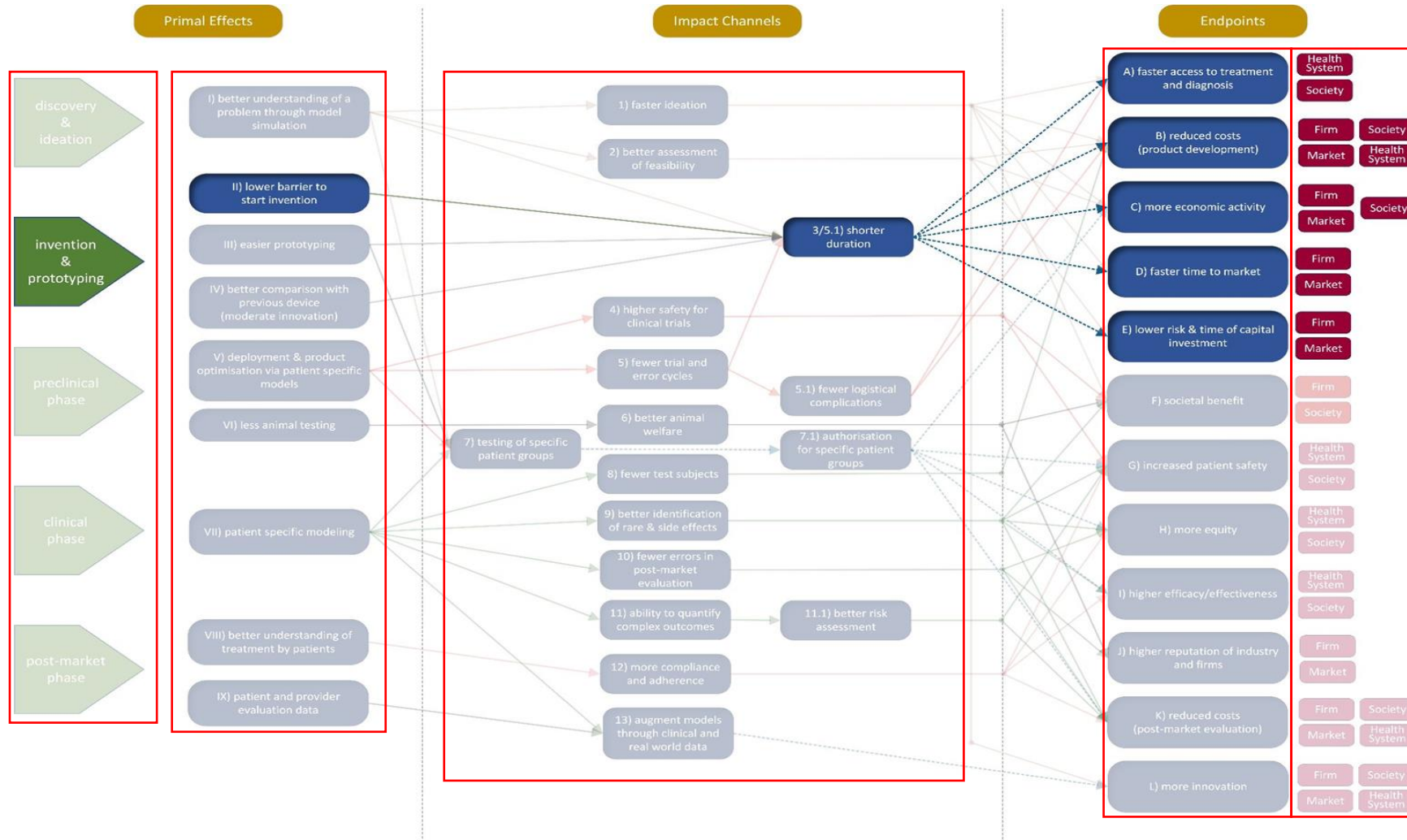
- Iterative framework development (Jabareen, 2009)
 - **Scoping review** (Von Elm, 2019)
 - **Expert interviews**
 - First: Explorative
 - Second: Different stakeholders
 - Academia, Industry, Regulators, Health Care Professionals
 - Qualitative content analysis (Mayring, 2015)
 - **Focus groups** with patients (Kitzinger, 1995)
 - Derivations from (health) economic theory

Elm, E. et al. (2019). *Methodische Anleitung für Scoping Reviews*. In: *Zeitschrift für Evidenz, Fortbildung und Qualität im Gesundheitswesen* 143.
Jabareen, Y. (2009). *Building a conceptual framework: philosophy, definitions, and procedure*. *International journal of qualitative methods*, 8(4), 49-62
Mayring, P. (2015). *Qualitative Inhaltsanalyse: Grundlagen und Techniken*. Beltz Pädagogik
Kitzinger, J. (1995). *Qualitative Research: Introducing focus groups*. *BMJ* 311:299

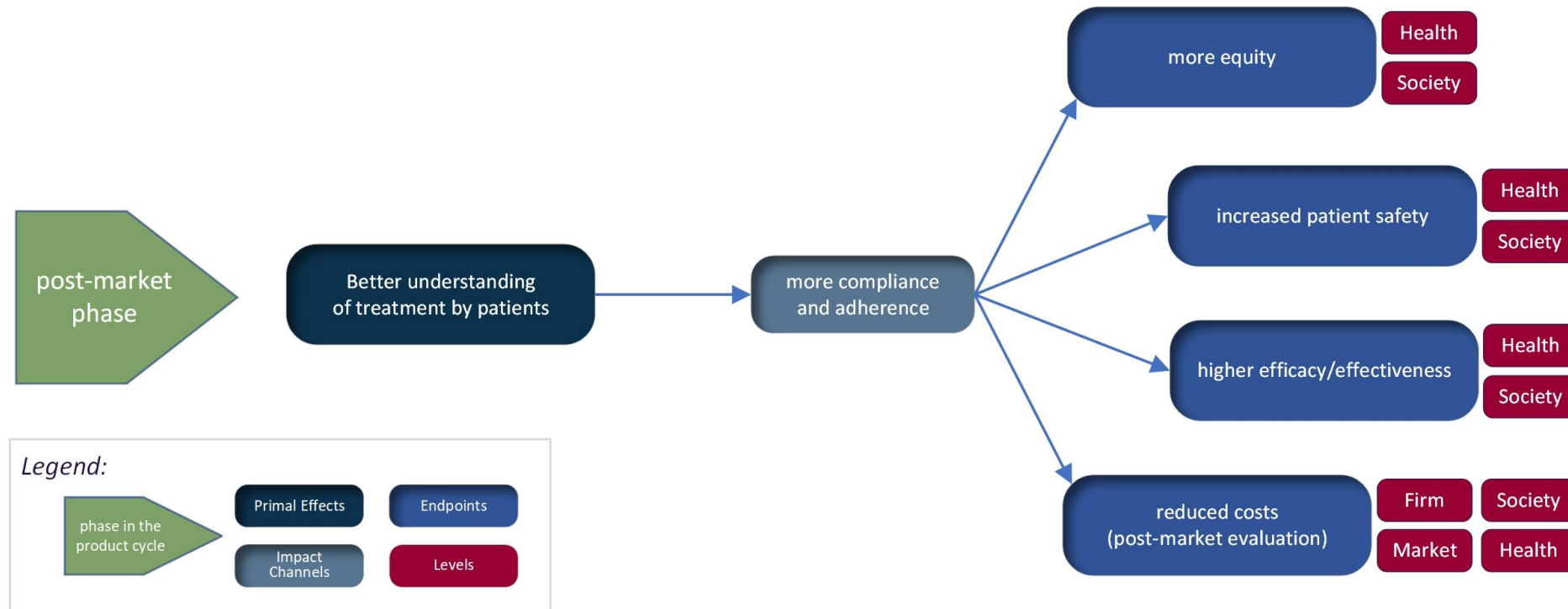
Preliminary conceptual framework 1/4



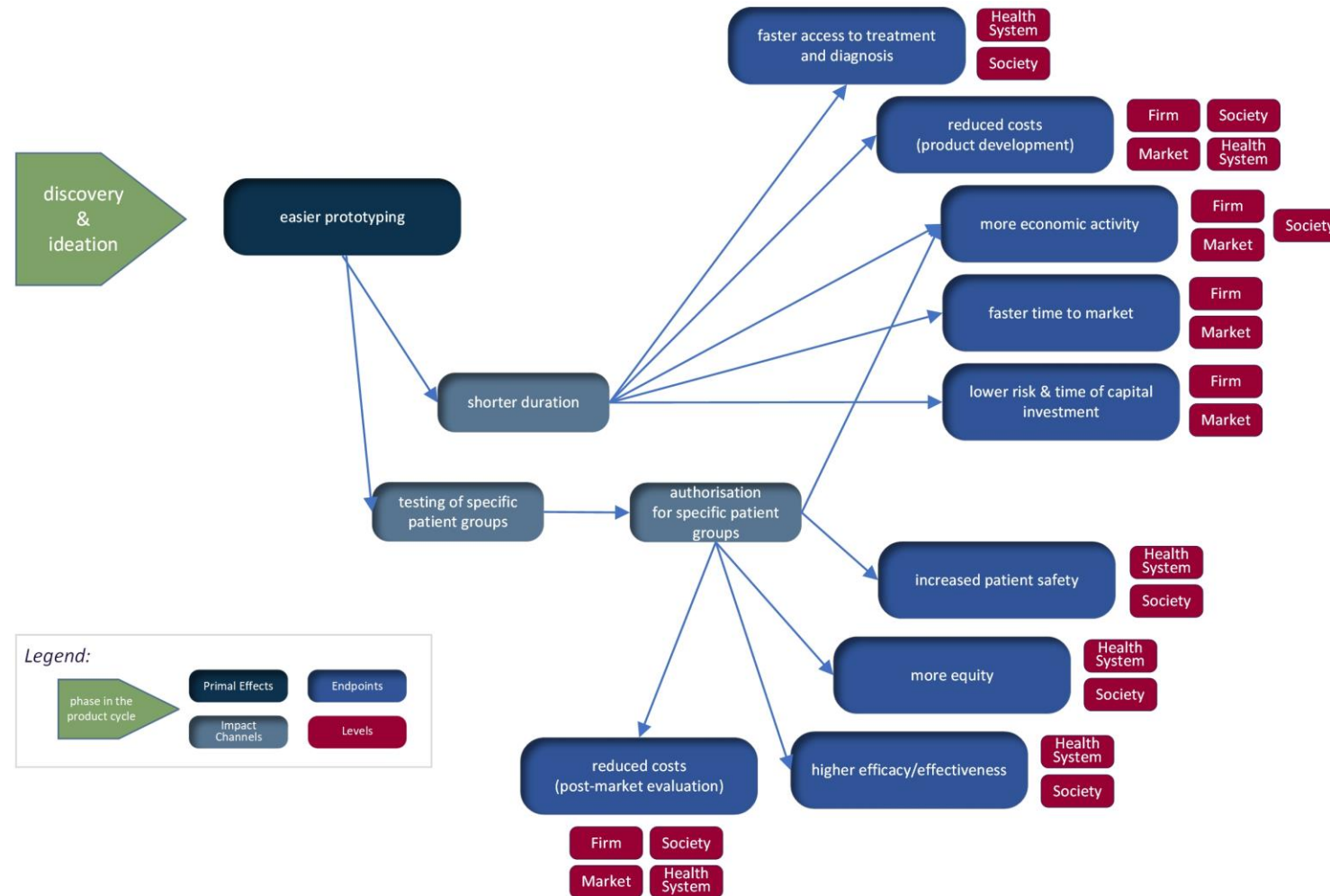
Preliminary conceptual framework 2/4



Preliminary conceptual framework 3/4



Preliminary conceptual framework 4/4



Preliminary results: Expert interviews

Progress with interviews

- **33 interviews** conducted (+7 pending)
- **international perspectives** with experts from various fields around the globe

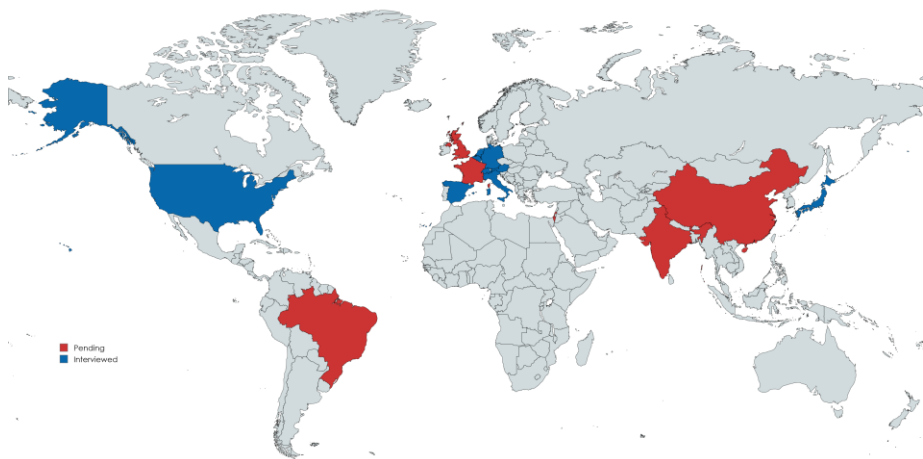


Fig. 7: Geographic representation of interview partners

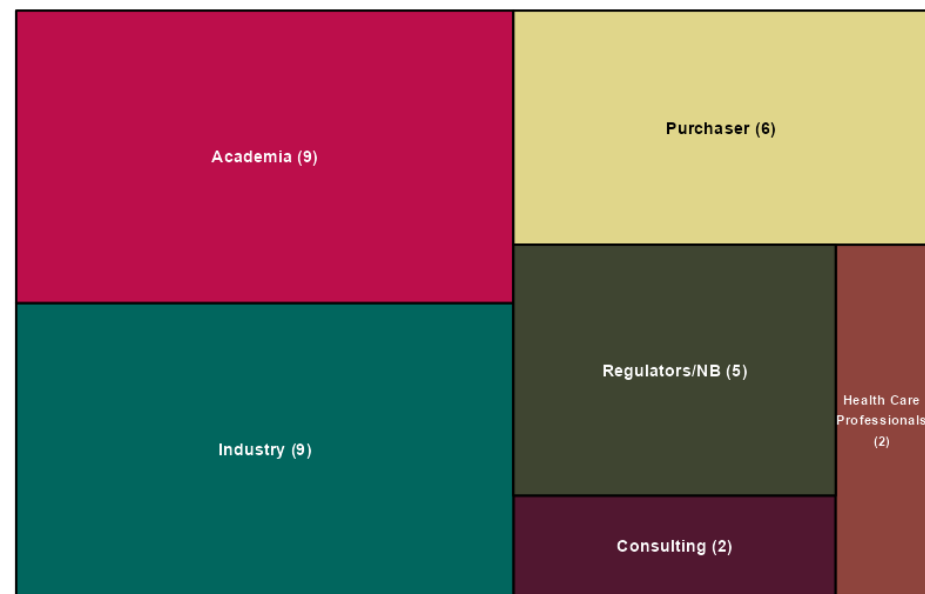
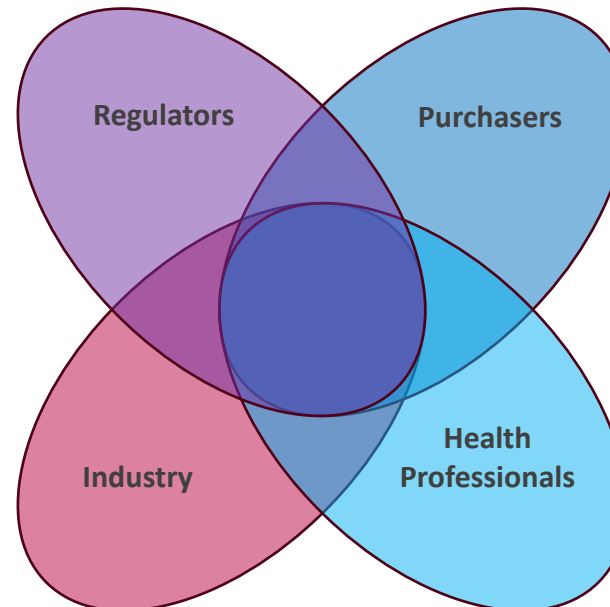


Fig. 8: Expertise area of interview partners



Insights

- Potential to reduce the **use of animals** and **clinical cohorts** is unclear
- More **regulatory guidance** regarding in-silico-VC in US compared to EU
- **Time-to-market** is likely to be shortened
- In-silico is applied to **very specific questions** in development so far



- **Competition** more relevant than production costs
- Balance between **price and efficacy** of devices depends on hospital operators
- **Training of clinicians** as a limiting factor
- **Increased safety** in clinical trials and post-market

- Systematically illustrate the potential impact of in-silico methods
- Framework as a guidance for different stakeholders
 - Necessary capital to start product development
e.g. 10% less
 - The amount of competition on a certain market
e.g. more firms with a similar product
 - Health care expenditure for a certain disease
e.g. lower health care expenditure on chronic heart failure
 - Available treatment for specific population groups
e.g. approval of treatment for children
 - Potential to enhance safety in every step of development cycle

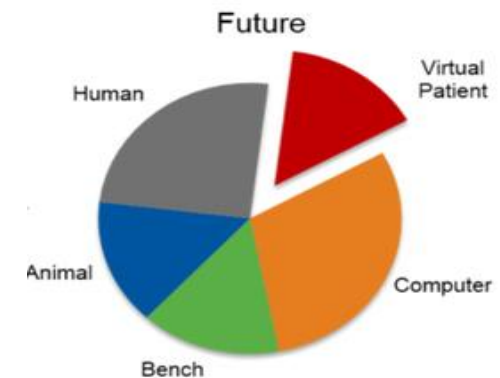


Fig 9: Source:
<https://mdic.org/program/computational-modeling-and-simulation-cms/> retrieved on 17th October 2023

Suggestions for further interview partners?

Notified Bodies or Purchasers from
Hospitals?



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Thank you for the attention!

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