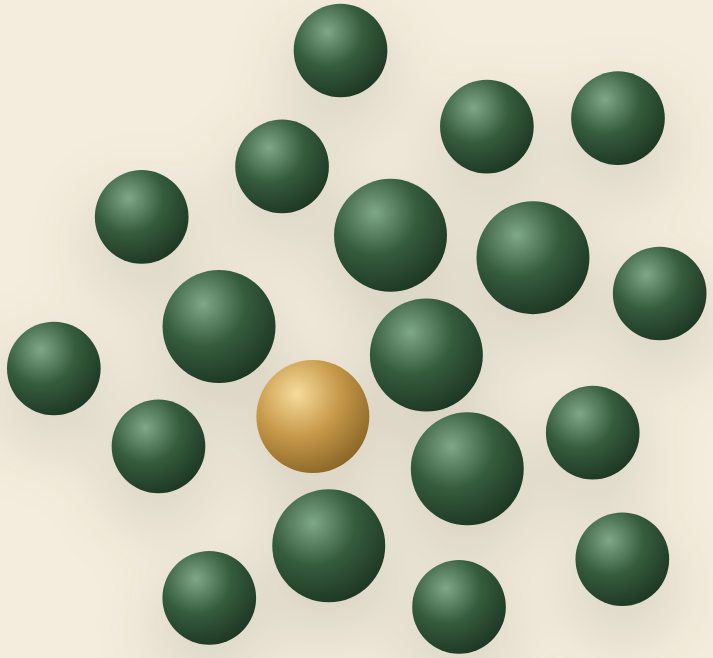


Zatoona

The AI workbench for therapeutic development

Developing therapies faster, cheaper and safer.

Ahmed El-Gazzar, PhD
Co-founder, Zatoona

Radboudumc Investment Day · 7 October 2026

The problem

Drug development is a series of high-stakes decisions.

$2.6B
spent per approved drug

15 years
from lab to patient

3–6 years — **Discovery**
Disease, target and molecule

1–3 years — **Preclinical research**
Testing in models, cells, animals

6–7 years — **Clinical trials**
Testing in humans

1–2 years — **Regulatory**
Review

90%
of drug candidates fail in clinical trials

- Inaccessible outside big pharma
- Unsafe
- Many diseases left untreated

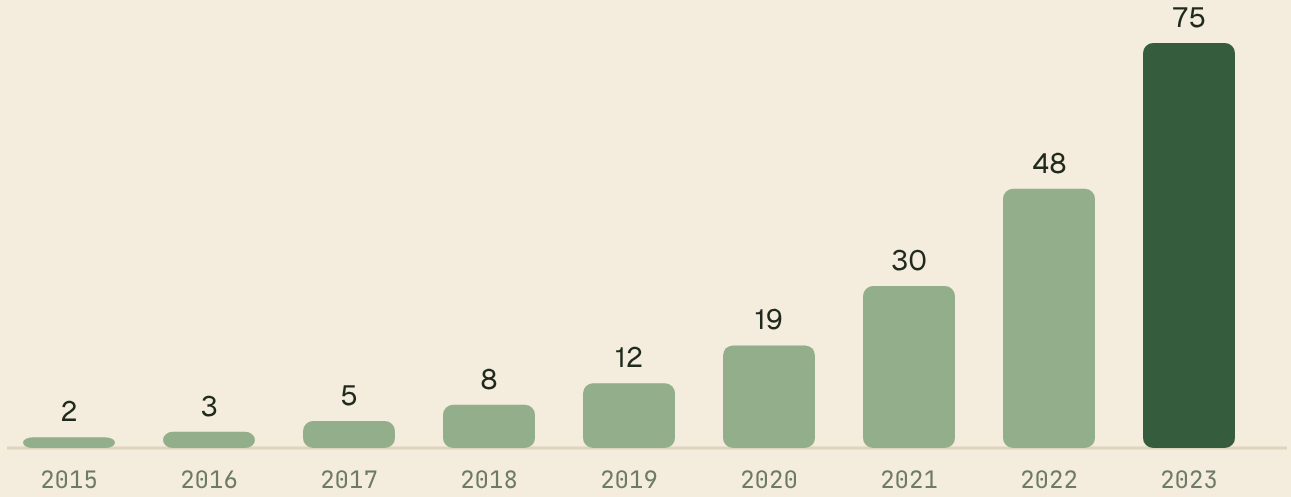
Generative AI is transforming early drug discovery.

Discovery

Disease, target and molecule

~~3–6 years~~ → **12–18 months**

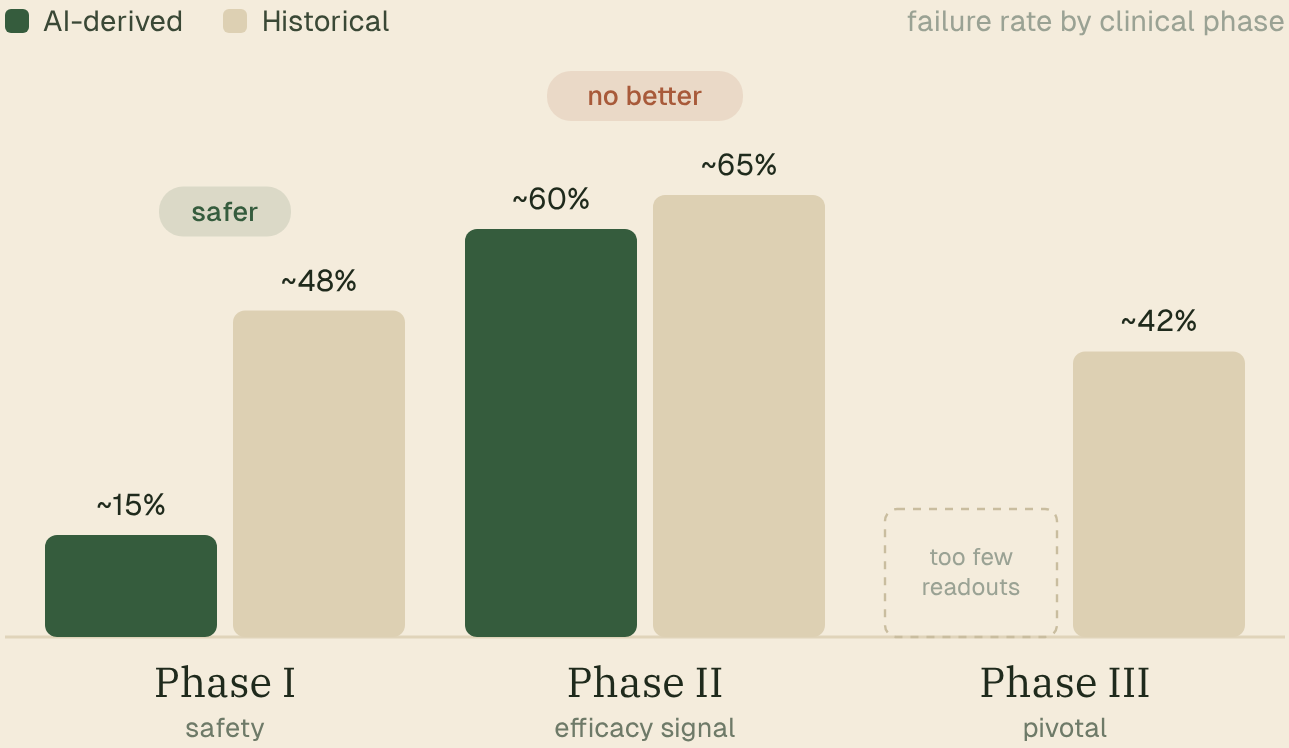
AI-assisted molecules entering clinical trials >60% per year since 2015



More candidates, faster. More decisions to get right.

Sources: Jayatunga et al., Drug Discovery Today 2024; BCG 2022; Wilczok, Clin. Pharmacol. Ther. 2025. Endpoints sourced; intermediate years illustrative.

Safer candidates, but not more effective ones.



Generation got cheaper.

Decisions did not.

Early signal, small sample. Source: Jayatunga et al., Drug Discovery Today 2024. Approximate values.

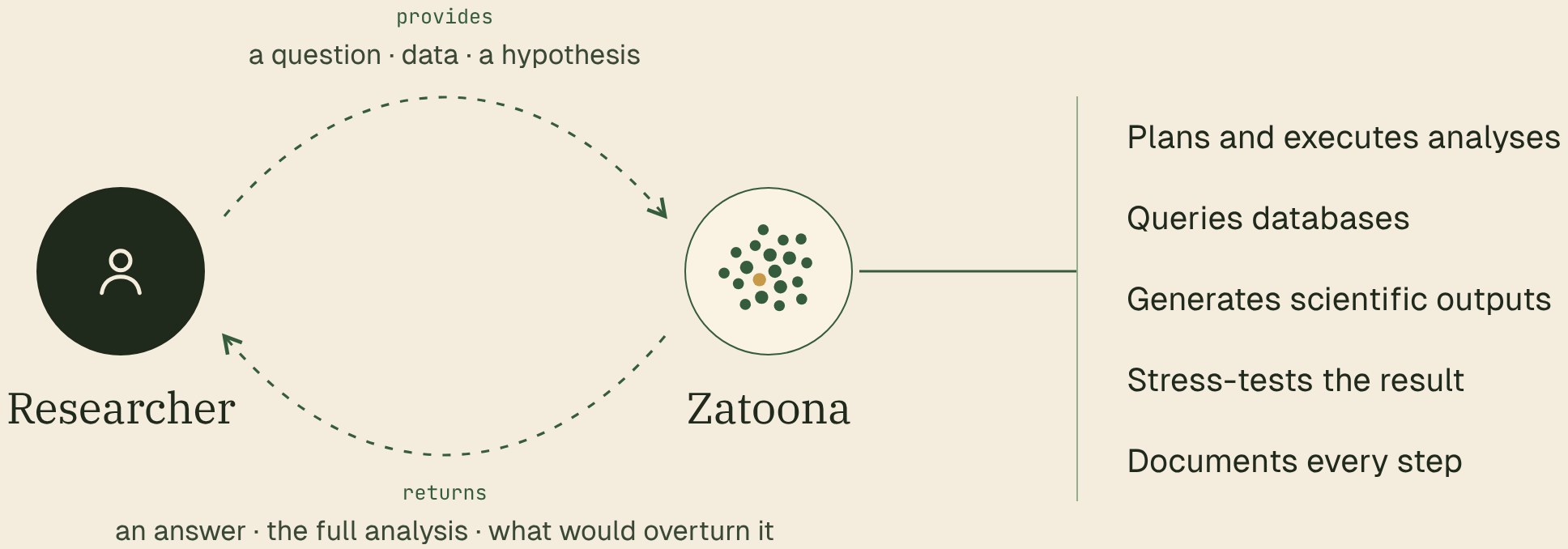
Zatoona

We bring the technologies together to make better decisions in drug development.

And we make it accessible outside big pharma.

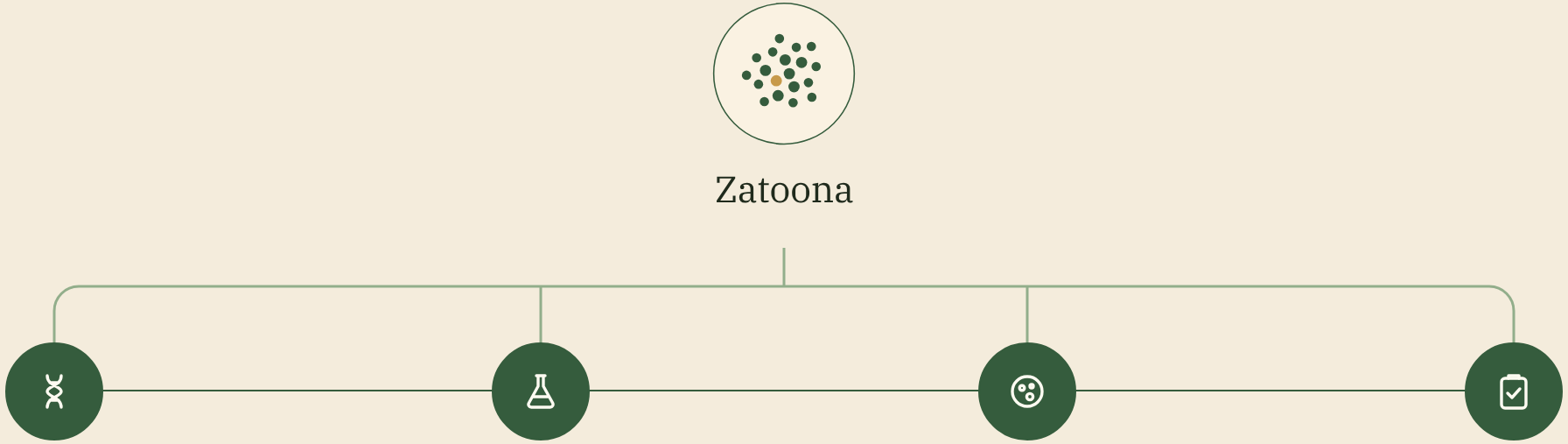
The product

One agentic AI platform, from disease biology to clinical trials.



The product

One agentic AI platform, from disease biology to clinical trials.



Disease biology & targets

Omics analysis
Target identification
Biomarker discovery

Hits, leads, repurposing

Drug repurposing
Compound screening
Lead optimisation

Preclinical

ADMET and PK
Dose–response modelling
Safety assessment

Clinical development

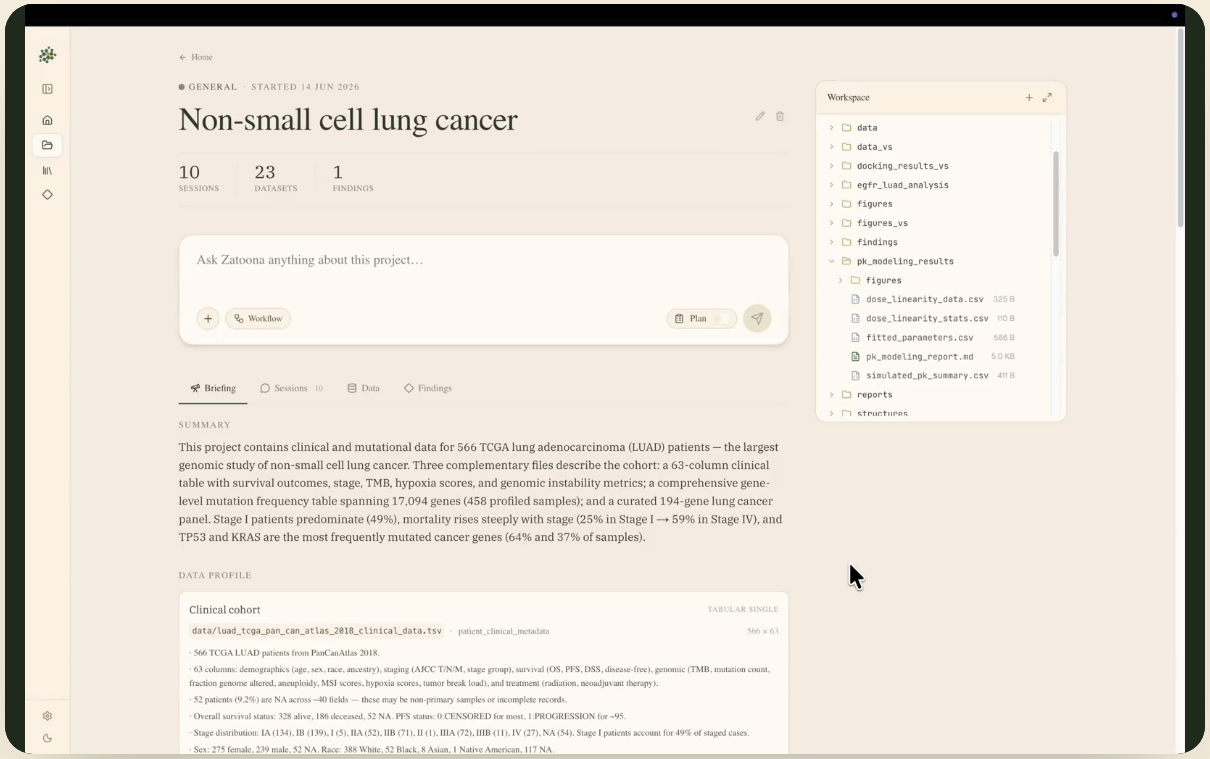
Trial design
Trial analysis
Real-world evidence

71 scientific packages

47 public databases

119 workflows

Expertise on demand, inside the data environment you control.



Example: PK modelling of icotinib, a lead compound in NSCLC · 2× speed, edited

Expertise on demand

Analyses that need a bioinformatician or data scientist, done in hours

One workspace

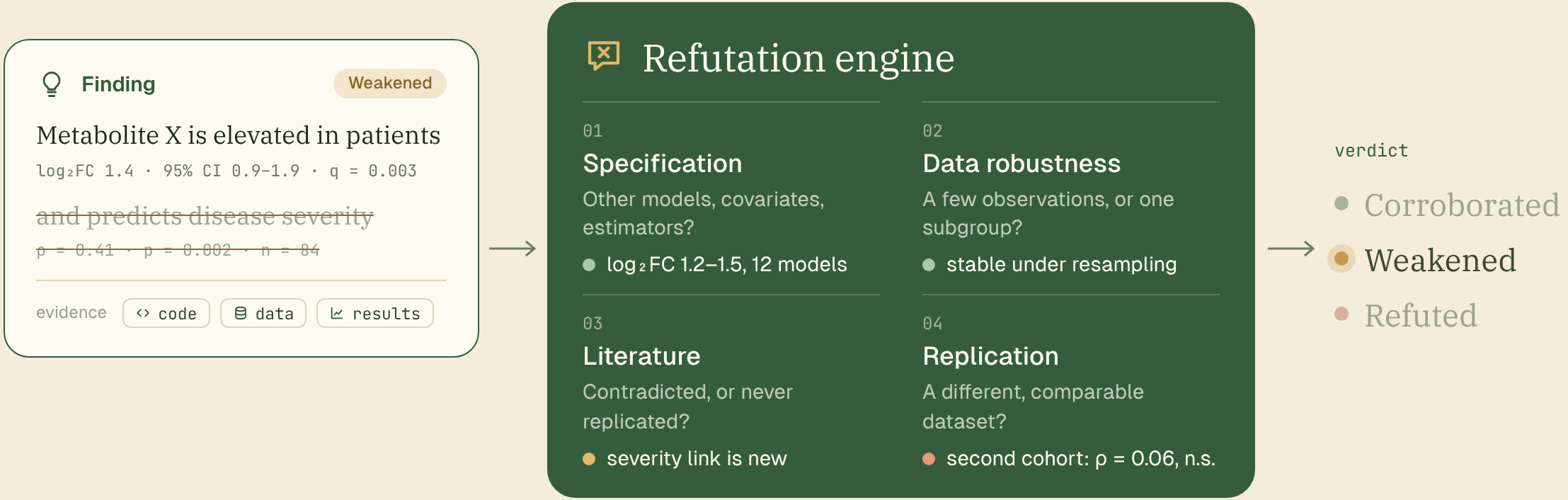
Replaces a patchwork of tools, scripts and analyst queues

Every result is auditable

Every step documented; findings stress-tested before anyone acts on them

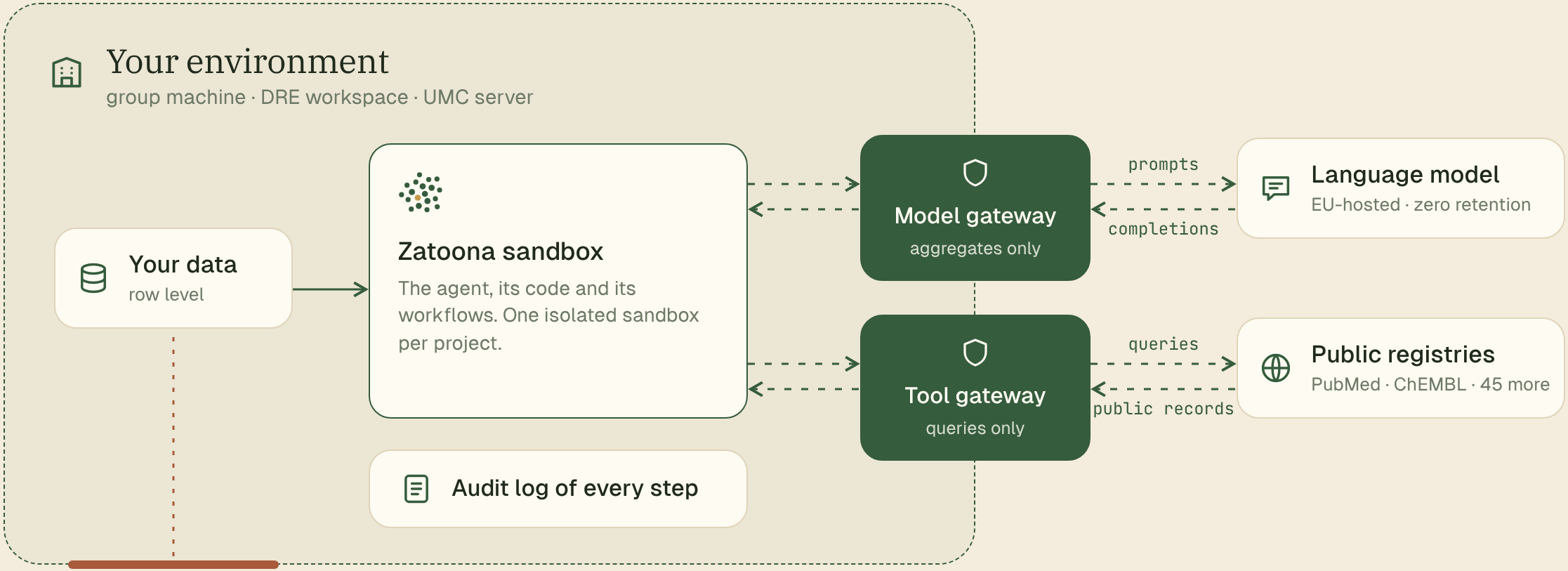
Runs where the data lives

Inside hospital and DRE environments; row-level data never leaves


Finding
Weakened
Metabolite X is elevated in patients
log₂FC 1.4 · 95% CI 0.9–1.9 · q = 0.003
and predicts disease severity
p = 0.41 · p = 0.002 · n = 84
evidence
code
data
results
Refutation engine
01
Specification
Other models, covariates, estimators?
log₂FC 1.2–1.5, 12 models
02
Data robustness
A few observations, or one subgroup?
stable under resampling
03
Literature
Contradicted, or never replicated?
severity link is new
04
Replication
A different, comparable dataset?
second cohort: ρ = 0.06, n.s.
verdict
Corroborated
Weakened
Refuted

Where it runs

Deployed inside the hospital's own data environment.



Row-level data never leaves.

- Data and AI governance with Radboudumc, in progress

Frontier AI and science, searching for commercial experience.



Dr. Ahmed El-Gazzar

Co-founder · CEO & CTO

PhD in machine learning for healthcare (UvA). Causal inference, generative modelling and agentic AI.

open

Commercial co-founder

Searching · CCO

B2B sales experience in pharma, biotech or research software. Owns pilot conversion and sales.

Scientific advisory board



Prof. Marcel van Gerven

Co-founder · Professor of AI, Radboud University

25+ years applying machine learning across neuroscience, healthcare and industry.



Prof. Alain van Gool

Professor of Personalized Healthcare, Radboudumc

Biomarker development and translational medicine, with a network across industrial and academic drug development.

Working together

Biotech and pharma

Pilots

A scoped project on your own data, with defined questions and a timeline.

Investors

Seed round

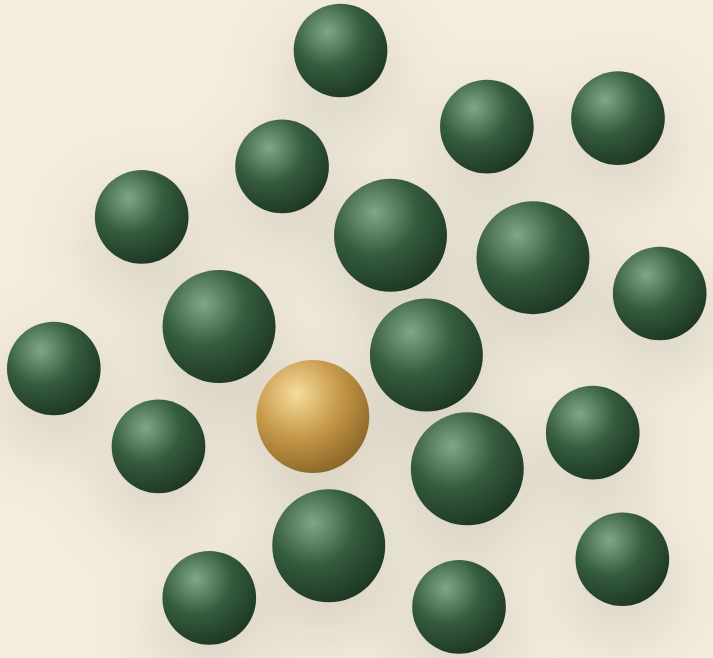
Raising a seed round in 2027.

UMCs and researchers

Collaboration

Joint grants, and deployment inside existing research environments.

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Democratising drug development

Helping small R&D teams advance biological knowledge and deliver medicines safer, cheaper and faster.

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