



Newsletter Issue #1

Editorial

Dear readers,



One year ago, the EU-funded **SafePolyMed** project took its first steps, aiming to enhance safety in polymedication by navigating the complex domain of Drug-Drug-Gene Interactions (DDGIs). Today, we reflect on a year filled with collaborative efforts and learning.

Our network of twelve partners from six European nations has brought together diverse expertise in pharmacogenetics, clinical pharmacy, machine learning, and pharmacology to address DDGIs.

A significant part of our first year's effort was devoted to the development of a citizen-focused medication platform. This step signifies our commitment to educating and empowering patients, which is central to our mission.

As we look forward to the next chapter of our journey, we will continue to unravel the intricacies of real-life DDGI scenarios, using the tools and perspectives we have assembled. The focus will gradually shift towards the practical applications of artificial intelligence and mechanistic models in managing these interactions.

The **SafePolyMed** project is grateful for the support received from the "Horizon Europe" Framework Programme, and we remain dedicated to the efficient use of our €5.6M grant. Here's to a future where polymedication safety and treatment efficacy are improved for all.

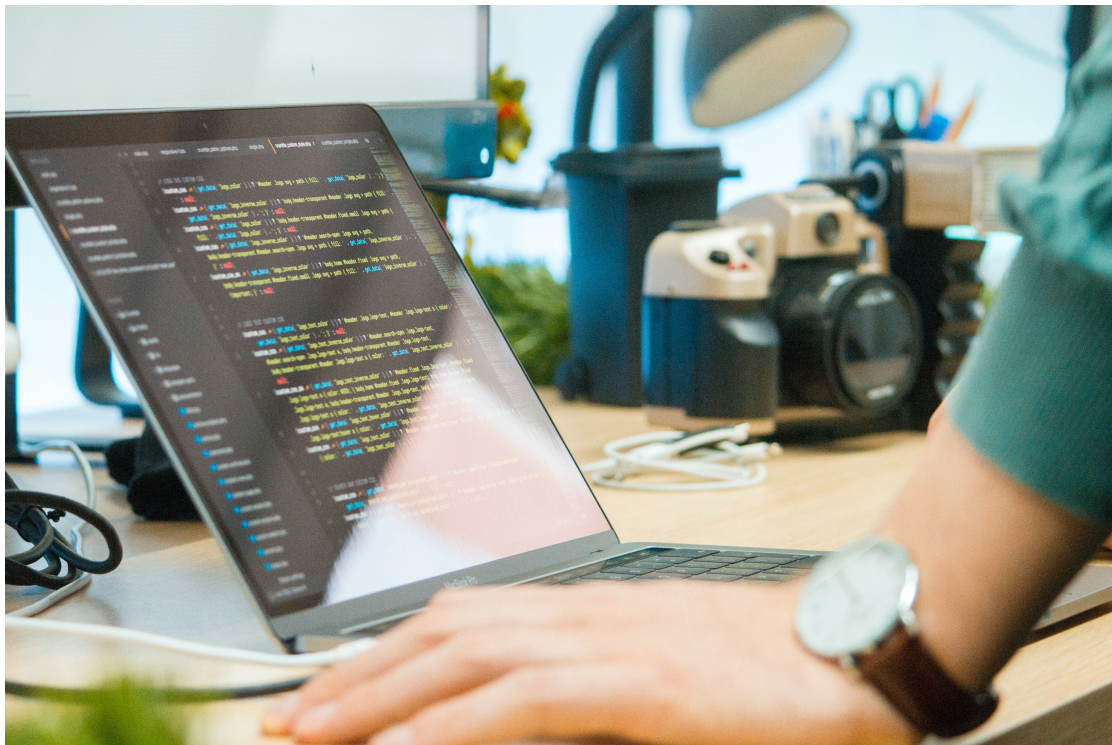
Best regards,

Thorsten Lehr
Project Coordinator

Advancing Drug Safety

How the SafePolyMed Project Is Using Machine Learning to Predict Adverse Drug Reactions

by Alexandros Kanterakis and Kleanthi Voutsadaki



Read the contribution on how **SafePolyMed** uses Machine Learning to advance drug safety by Alexandros Kanterakis and Kleanthi Voutsadaki from the **SafePolyMed** partner The Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas (FORTH).

[Read the contribution](#)

1st Progress Meeting in Athens, May 2023



The **SafePolyMed** team was excited to meet in Athens in May 2023 for the First Progress Meeting. During the meeting they discussed the progress made so far and planned the next steps of the project. One particular focus was the impact of AI developments on **SafePolyMed**.

[Read more about the meeting](#)

Meetings with Horizon Europe Cluster Projects December 2022 and May 2023

In December 2022 and May 2023, **SafePolyMed** met with representatives of other projects (SAFEST, BeSAFE, and DELIVER) funded under the Horizon Europe call "Ensuring access to innovative, sustainable and high-quality health care (2021)".

The meetings were held to share information about the progress made by each project, to present common challenges and solutions and to discuss synergies.

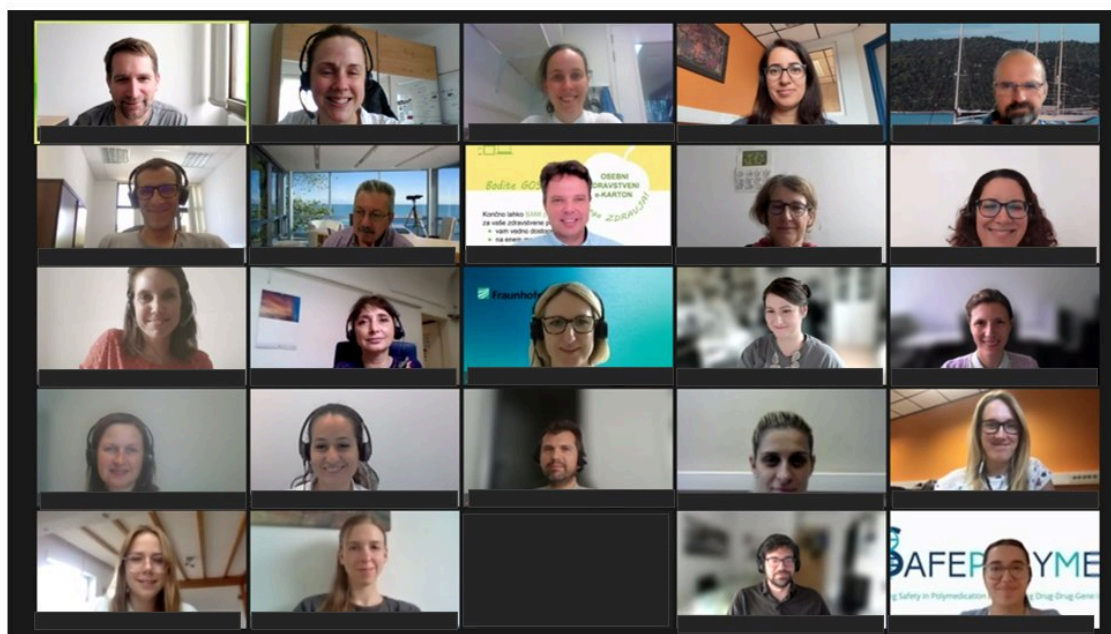
First Face-to-Face Meeting in Saarbrücken November 2022



In November 2022, the **SafePolyMed** team had its first face-to-face meeting in Saarbrücken, Germany. Following the virtual kick-off meeting in July 2022, it was a great pleasure for all project partners to finally have the opportunity to meet in person.

[Learn more about the meeting](#)

Virtual Kick-off Meeting, July 2022



SafePolyMed kicked off in July 2022 with a virtual team meeting. This initial gathering gave partners the chance to get to know each other and to establish efficient project management and support structures.

SafePolyMed in the Techniker Krankenkasse's "TK spezial" newsletter

Thorsten Lehr, **SafePolyMed**'s coordinator, engaged in a conversation with Techniker Krankenkasse, Germany's largest health insurance. In the interview Thorsten Lehr shared the goals of **SafePolyMed** and highlighted the immense potential of health data for improving patient safety and empowering patients.

Read the German-language newsletter and interview here:

[TK Spezial Newsletter](#)

SafePolyMed in the Pharmazeutische Zeitung

SafePolyMed gained recognition in the German Pharmazeutische Zeitung, as the project's goals were highlighted in an informative article. You can access the article (in German) here:

[Read the article](#)

SafePolyMed in the Deutsche Apotheker Zeitung

The German Deutsche Apotheker Zeitung reported on the start of the **SafePolyMed** project in an article accessible here:

[Read the article](#)

SafePolyMed at the NSHG-PM 2023 Workshop

SafePolyMed was featured at the NSHG-PM 2023 workshop "Precision Medicine: The Bridge from Research to Healthcare" in Tallinn, Estonia, from **June 19 – 21, 2023**.

Professor Lili Milani from the University of Tartu, a **SafePolyMed** partner, was part of the Local Organizing Committee of the Nordic Society of Human Genetics and Precision Medicine's (NSHG-PM) workshop.

The University of Tartu provided a roll-up display and project leaflets for workshop participants, informed about the **SafePolyMed** project and discussed collaboration opportunities with related EC-funded projects.

Look at the workshop

Posters that were presented at the workshop: (https://nshg-pm2023.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/CAP-Partner_NSHG-PM2023_abstract-book.pdf).

A 12-gene pharmacogenetic panel to prevent adverse drug reactions an open-label, multicentre, controlled, cluster-randomised crossover implementation study

THE LANCET



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Articles

A 12-gene pharmacogenetic panel to prevent adverse drug reactions: an open-label, multicentre, controlled, cluster-randomised crossover implementation study

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A study co-authored among others by Prof Jesse J Swen, Team Leader of the [Leiden University Medical Center](#) Group in **SafePolyMed**, and

SafePolyMed coordinator Prof Thorsten Lehr from [Universität des Saarlandes](#), has been published in the prestigious journal The Lancet. Read the article in open access here:

Open Access article

The impact of the study has been wide-reaching within and beyond the research community. The study results even inspired a popular German TV quiz show ("Wer weiß denn sowas?", episode 1033).

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