



New ESIG on the Block!

Introducing the Early Phase Special Interest Group



Nicolas Sauvageot¹ · Samantha Hinsley² (Chair) · Marie-Karelle Riviere³ (Co-Chair) — on behalf of the Early Phase SIG

¹ Statistics & Decision Sciences, Johnson & Johnson, Switzerland ² Phastar, United Kingdom ³ Saryga, France



Jan 2026

Established



33

Members — and growing



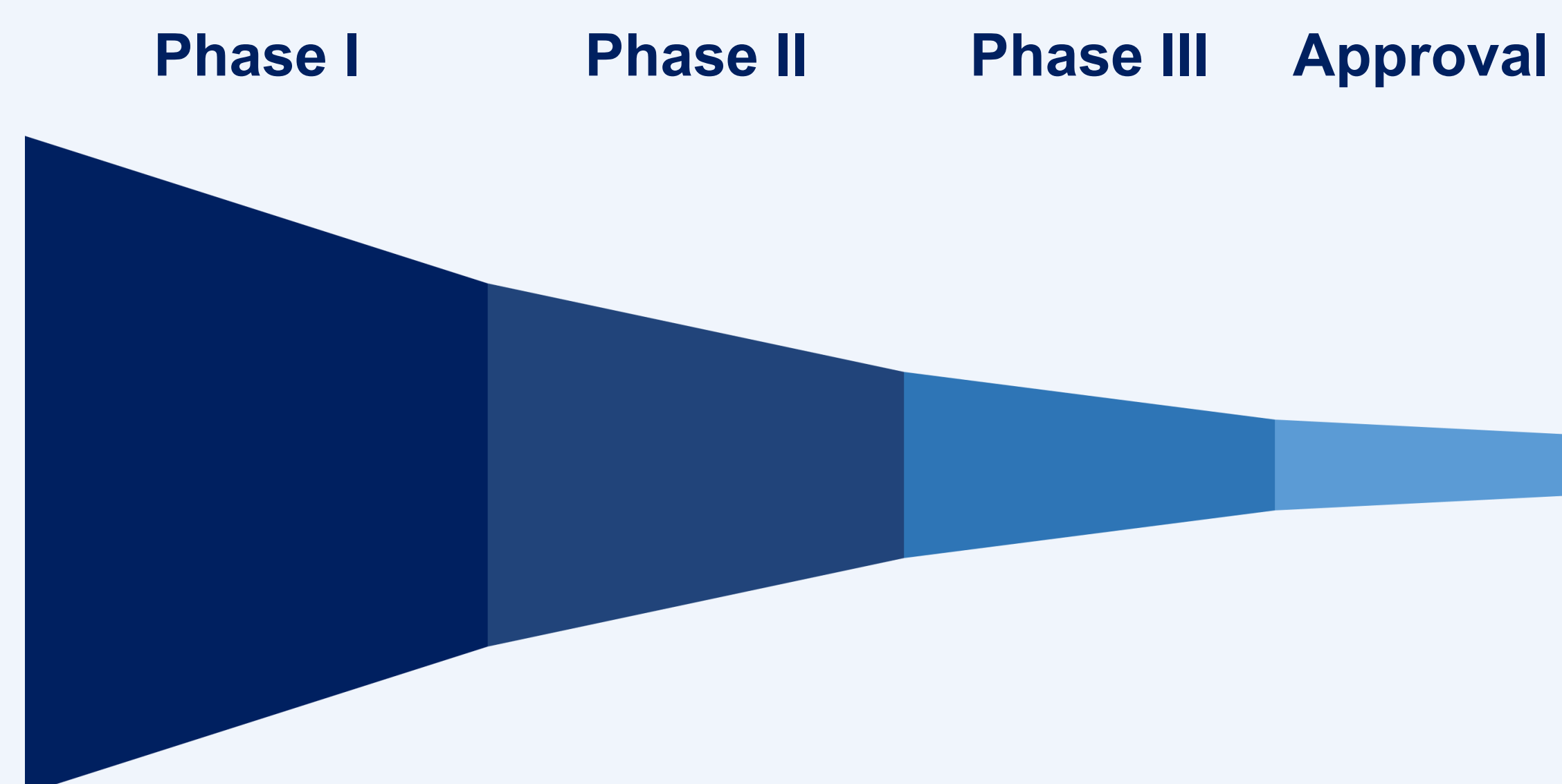
**Academia · Pharma
CRO · Research groups**

Where our members come from

Purpose & rationale

- Early phase trials are the first in-human step in drug development — and, as the FDA's Project Optimus highlights, a critical point for getting dose, schedule and combination decisions right.
- A high proportion of treatments still fail in Phases II and III, at great cost in time, money and patients — so rigorous early-stage statistics prevent wasted effort on substandard treatments.
- Our aim is to share knowledge, foster collaboration and improve education across the early phase community.

The drug-development attrition funnel



Most treatments entering first-in-human trials never reach approval, getting early decisions right reduces costly failures in later phases.

Objectives



Innovative designs

Promote the use of innovative designs and statistical methodologies, where appropriate.



Education & training

Improve understanding and implementation of early phase methods via training, meetings and publications.



Knowledge sharing

Share knowledge and real-life experience between key stakeholders in academia and industry.



Community

Create space for collaboration — fostering a community of support rather than competition.



Building bridges

We work with the NIHR early phase group and the PSI committees to connect academia and industry.

Subteams

• Phase I design – oncology

Lead: Anja Victor

• Phase I design – non-oncology

Lead: Agnieszka Tomczyk

• Phase II design – oncology & non-oncology

Lead: Alexandra Jauhiainen

KEY AIM

“To advance the use of innovative trial methodologies to improve standards within the early phase clinical trials community, and reduce substandard treatments being taken into later phase trials.”

Want to join?

- Email Samantha Hinsley: samantha.hinsley@phastar.com or Marie-Karelle Riviere: marie-karelle.riviere@saryga.com
- Include a brief sentence on your background in early phase
- Confirm your PSI / EFSPi membership
- Max. 2 people per company
- Website: <https://psiweb.org/sigs-special-interest-groups/early-phase>



Scan me