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Shaping your tomorrow's skills: Preparing today's scientists for the challenges of the future

Meet the speaker, Liesbeth

CEO, BioLizard – AI-native life sciences data-science company

Veterinarian | PhD in Veterinary Sciences | Executive MBA, Vlerick Business School

- Combining **scientific depth** with **strategic leadership**
- Leading BioLizard's growth from consultancy to innovation partner
- Passionate about **empowering scientists** and **career agility**
- Living proof that career agility works (and yes, balancing it all as a **mum**)

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The medical revolution

Medicine is changing fast

- From "one-size-fits-all" to precision therapies tailored to individuals

- Advanced therapies (gene, cell, RNA) revolutionize care, even curing disease

"Advanced therapies are growing in potential and complexity, revolutionary, but data-intensive and delivery-challenged."

Deloitte (2024)

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The complexity challenge

Knowledge is fragmented across datasets, labs, and disciplines

Scientists face a data avalanche: more data, less clarity

More Data ≠ More Clarity

One RNA-sequencing experiment can create more than a billion data points from a single sample

Each patient generates terabytes of omics data (genome, transcriptome, proteome, microbiome)

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BioLizard's solution

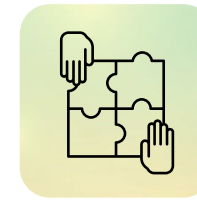We work side-by-side with our clients on tech-enabled, biology-first solutions.

Client-intimate collaboration

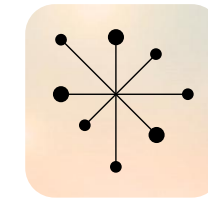Our scientists embed with client teams, translating complex data into clear insights.

Biology first

We think data and we speak biology

Co-creation model

We build solutions together, from pilot projects to large-scale programs.

Unique blend of consulting and software

Bio | Verse® and our reusable pipelines turn every project into scalable value.
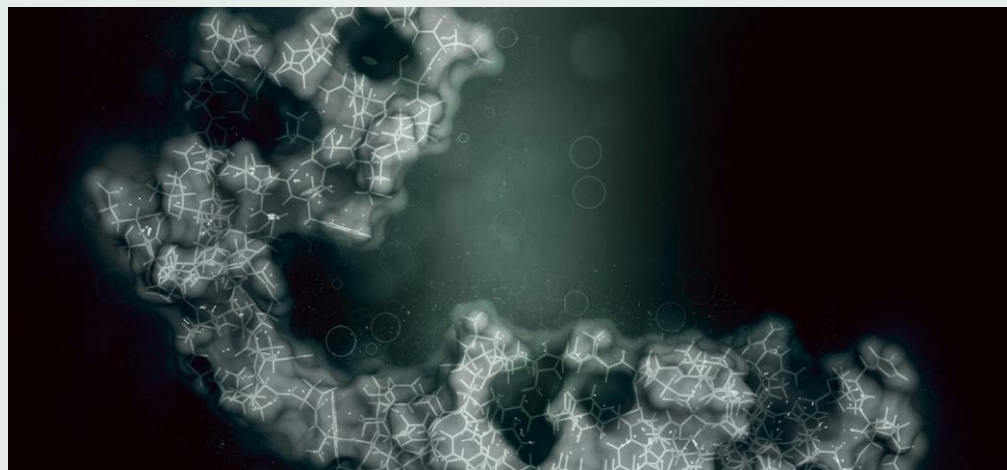
Trusted by global leaders: AstraZeneca   zoetis   Nestlé   syngenta.

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Why this matters

Answers are hidden in the data
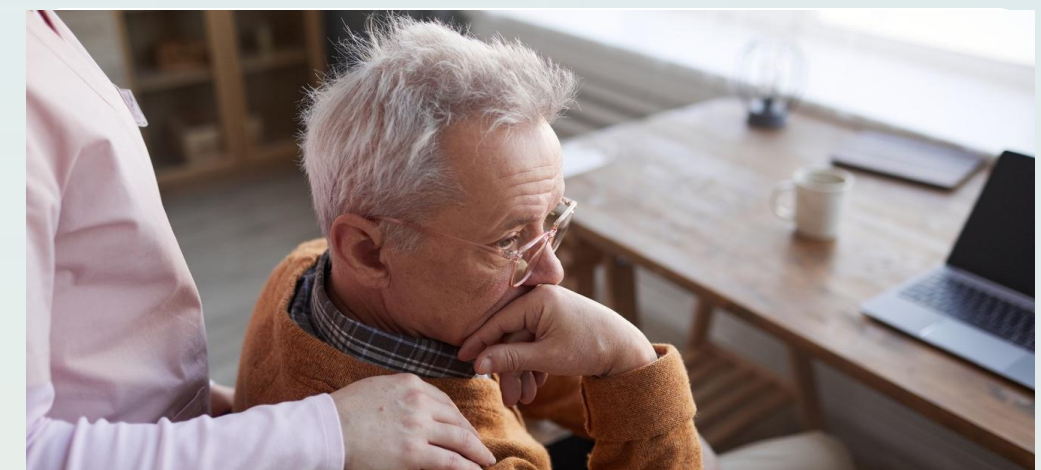

Biomarkers predict drug response

Biomarkers predict if a cancer drug will work

Pathways reveal new therapies

Pathways reveal new therapies for rare and complex diseases

Translating signals into treatments

Without translation, signals remain buried leaving patients waiting longer for effective treatments

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Who we are

From Ghent Startup to Global Impact

Founded in 2018 in Ghent, now a truly international company:

- 60+ scientists across Belgium, France, Netherlands, Switzerland, US

- 100+ clients: from small biotech to global pharma

- Continuous growth because our model works

Our mission

"Turn complex biological data into actionable insights, combining reliable science with advanced technology, to help every patient in a data-driven way"

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The world is changing faster than science can publish

At BioLizard, we see how fast innovation cycles have become – what was cutting-edge two years ago is now standard practice.

Data and biology are merging – scientists who can bridge both worlds will lead the next generation of breakthroughs

Yesterday: specialists in a single domain

Tomorrow: translators across disciplines

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What does this mean for YOU?

The world of data-driven medicine, AI-powered discoveries, and interdisciplinary teams
Is here **NOW.**

And it demands something different from scientists:
Not just deeper expertise, but **BROADER** agility.

Let's talk about how you prepare…

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Career agility: the skills behind all skills

Career agility is the ability to anticipate change, adapt your skills, and create your own opportunities.

Technology changes fast; faster than education can follow. As a scientist you need to focus on **continuous learning**, remain agile and adapt to new situations.

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Core skills for tomorrow's scientists

Digital literacy
Interdisciplinary collaboration
Continuous learning
Resilience & adaptability
Purpose and impact

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From knowledge to mindset

Mindset beats skillset

Fixed mindset 'this is my role' versus Agile mindset 'What can I learn next'

"In times of change, the learners inherit the earth." – Eric Hoffer

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How to apply this in services/ consultancy environment

Consultancy implies a mix of hard skills and soft skills

- **Embrace flexibility** – learn from every client and project

- **Translate experience** into future success

- **Navigate seamlessly** across technologies, domains, and industries

- **Stay ahead** of emerging science and innovation

- **Build trust** through strong, customer-facing interactions

- **Communicate with impact**, tailored to your audience

- **Bridge disciplines** and **collaborate** to drive results

- Be **patient**

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Building your own agility: how?

Practical tips

- **Reflect:** Identify your strengths and what's becoming less relevant

- **Reskill:** Learn one new technology or topic each year; go outside of your comfortzone

- **Connect:** Build bridges across disciplines

- **Seek feedback:** Growth happens through dialogue

- **Attract opposites:** Learn from people who mirror different perspectives

- **Stay curious:** Ask questions and experiment, keep practising

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The BioLizard example

How we bring this to life:

- **Internal trainings & knowledge sharing**

- **Multidisciplinary teams** – *"Think data, speak biology"*

- **AI-driven projects** such as **BioVerse**

- **Evolving from consultancy to innovation partner** (think out of the box, co-create, be pro-active)

"We grow by learning, not by standing still."

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Beyond the lab/computer

A scientific background opens **many career paths.** Your analytical mindset and curiosity are valuable in roles such as:

- **Project Management** – coordinating multidisciplinary teams

- **Sales & Business Development** – translating science into client value

- **Product Management** – shaping solutions based on user needs

- **People Leadership** – mentoring and inspiring others

"Your scientific skills are your foundation — not your limit."

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Your skills.
Your future.

The future belongs to those who combine scientific depth with curiosity, empathy, and the ability to connect across disciplines.

Your skills define your future.

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