

## EFSPI 15<sup>th</sup> Statistical Leaders Meeting

Approximately 40 Statistics Leaders and guests attended the 15<sup>th</sup> EFSPi Statistics Leaders Meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024 hosted by BMS in Boudry, Switzerland. Three important topics were discussed with key messages as follows:

### **1. Skill sets Statistical leaders need to have in the future**

Statistics Leaders have a key role to play to drive innovation, foster a growth mindset, leading diverse and hybrid teams and ensuring a strong foundation today for a fast changing R&D model needed tomorrow.

### **2. How leaders are promoting innovation in drug development**

The newly created EFSPi Statistics Methodology Leaders Working Group challenged the EFSPi Statistics Leaders to embrace the two key components of innovation: the invention itself and being able to commercialise the invention so it becomes embedded and has the desired impact. As a discipline, statisticians tend to focus more on the invention but being able to sell, advocate, and champion why the invention is needed and the value it will bring is just as important.

### **3. How diversity and inclusiveness has changed Statistics departments and how leaders are leading groups**

This was the first time a session on diversity (D) and inclusiveness (I) has been discussed at the EFSPi Statistics Leaders Meeting and it was very well received. Leaders shared their experiences of creating diverse teams and how to maximise D & I in recruiting and building high performing teams. There was a key focus on culture and behaviours with NextGen Statistician guests giving superb feedback on what they have experienced thus far.

Thanks to all the session chairs, Emmanuel Zummer, and colleagues at BMS (Katrin Kupas, Roland Marion-Gallois and Charline Mere) for their support in organising the meeting. We all enjoyed the beautiful scenery with the lake and mountains nearby.

Chrissie Fletcher (GSK)  
EFSPi Statistics Leaders Meeting Chair



