


Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference



A graphic for the Boston PPM Conference. It features a skyline of buildings where the buildings are composed of various project management terms like 'PMP', 'R&D', 'Resource Management', 'Agile Capacity', 'Risk Mitigation', 'Portfolio Management', 'Staff Planning', 'Governance and Risk Management', 'Predictive Analytics', 'Resource Forecasting', 'Decision Making', 'Strategic Planning', 'Visualisation Tools', 'Risk Management', 'Agile Capacity', 'Portfolio Management', 'Staff Planning', 'Governance and Risk Management', 'Predictive Analytics', 'Resource Forecasting', 'Decision Making', 'Strategic Planning', 'Visualisation Tools'. The date 'OCTOBER 15-17' is prominently displayed in orange. Below the skyline, the text 'BOSTON' is written in large blue letters, and 'PPM CONFERENCE' is written in large orange letters.



October 15 - 17 | 2025



Boston | MA, USA

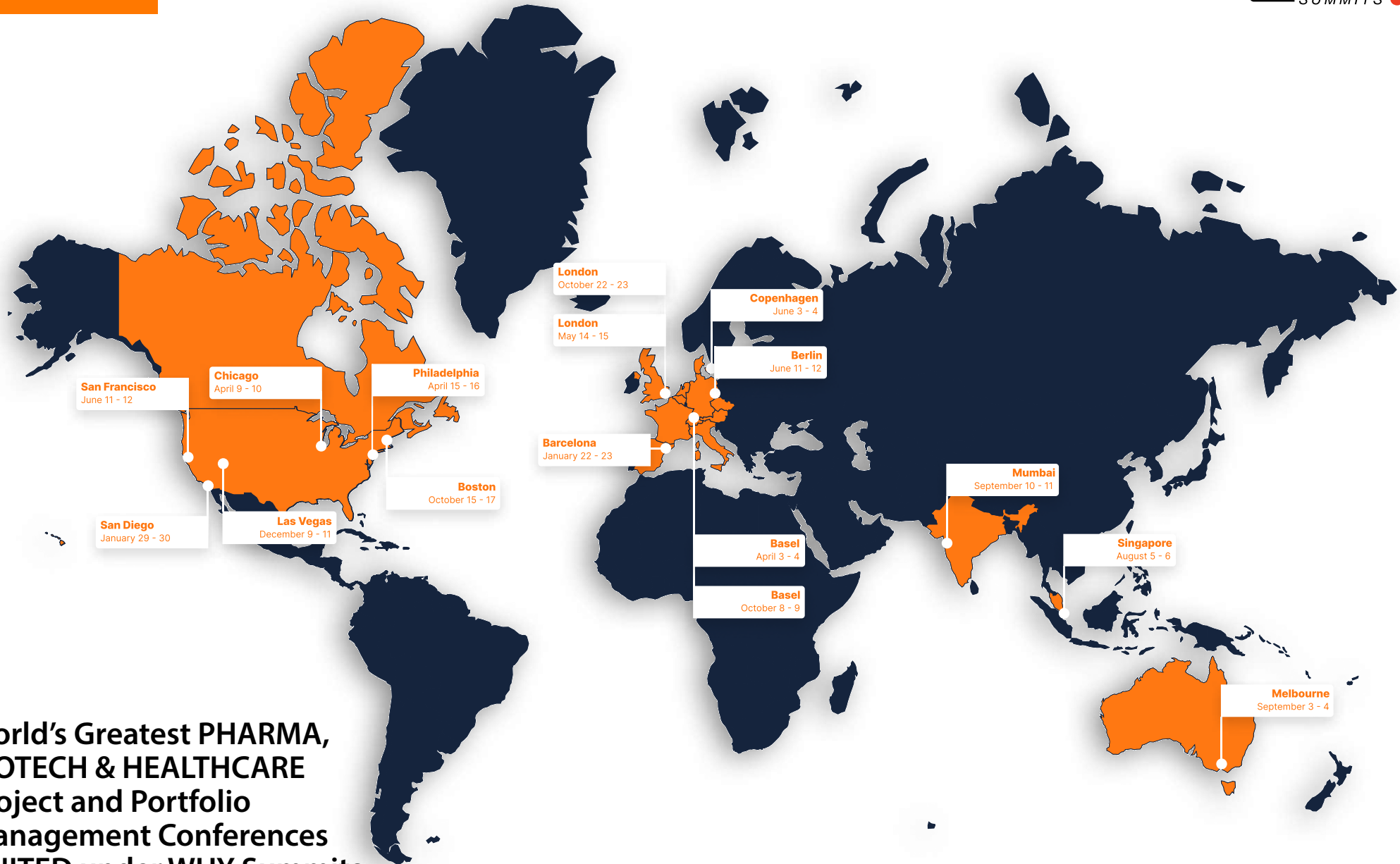
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PPM World Tour 2025



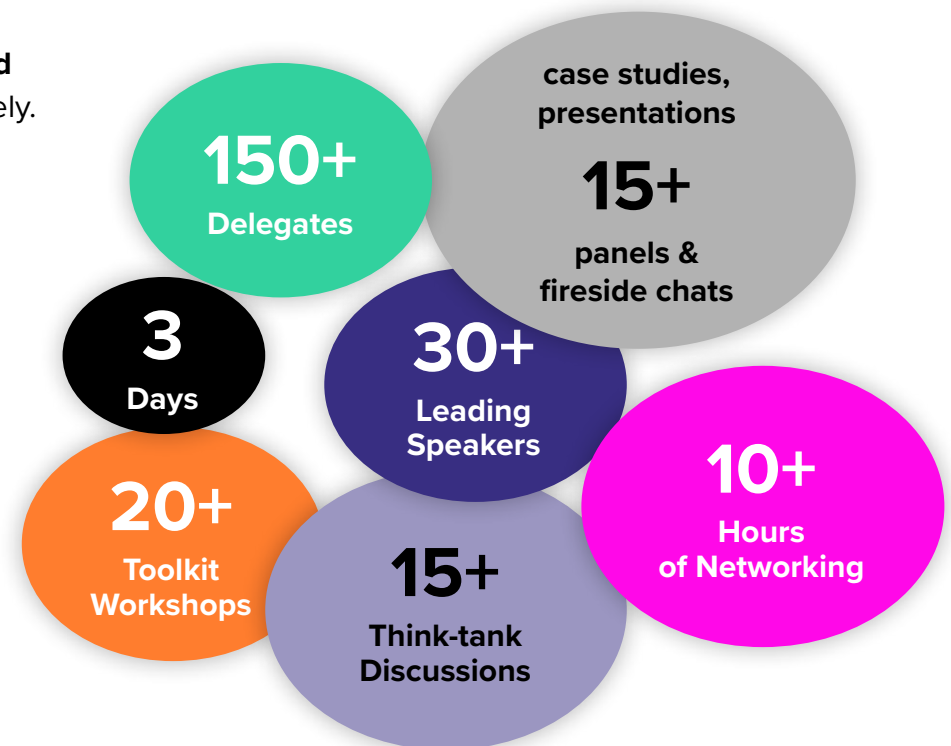
World's Greatest PHARMA,
BIOTECH & HEALTHCARE
Project and Portfolio
Management Conferences
UNITED under WHY Summits
PPM WORLD TOUR

THE PHARMA PPM EVENT YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS!



STRUGGLING WITH RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS, COMPLEX PORTFOLIOS, OR AI ADOPTION? THIS SUMMIT IS YOUR SHORTCUT TO SMARTER DECISIONS, OPTIMIZED STRATEGIES, AND REAL IMPACT.

- **Learn from the best.** Get insider knowledge from **top pharma & biotech PPM leaders** who've cracked the code on efficiency, risk management, and innovation.
- **Future-proof your PPM approach.** Master **AI-driven decision-making, scenario planning, and next-gen project execution** to stay ahead.
- **Solve real challenges - fast.** Engage in **interactive workshops, think tanks, and case studies** designed for **actionable takeaways** you can implement immediately.
- **Expand your network.** Connect with **key decision-makers, industry pioneers, and peers** who are shaping the future of pharma PPM.
- **Exclusive workshops.** Get **hands-on training** in portfolio strategy, governance, and AI for PPM with world-class experts.



UNIQUE NEW FORMATS



Besides our well-known and beloved formats (keynotes, case studies and panel-discussions), we are bringing new ones to you:

TOOLKIT WORKSHOPS

- 📌 **Focus and learn about** actionable tools and frameworks you can **immediately apply**
- 📌 **Gain relevant, industry-specific knowledge**, tailored to the unique challenges of **pharma project management**
- 📌 **Engage in** real-time problem-solving and collaboration and enjoy a hands-on, engaging experience with peers and experts

THINK-TANK DISCUSSIONS

- 📌 **Practical, solution-focused** discussions - no generic theory, only real-world applications.
- 📌 **Engage with peers** facing similar challenges - **learn from their experiences**.
- 📌 Walk away with **actionable strategies, toolkits, and best practices**.

FIRESIDE CHATS

- 📌 **Unfiltered Insights:** get candid, behind-the-scenes perspectives from industry leaders
- 📌 **Interactive & Dynamic:** unlike traditional keynotes, fireside chats encourage real conversations, audience questions, and thought-provoking discussions
- 📌 **Deep & Focused Insights:** understand the challenges that the industry leaders face and overcome, learn about their strategies and approaches.

KEY TOPICS REFLECTING THE CURRENT HOT TOPICS OF THE INDUSTRY:

- 📌 **Strategic Portfolio & Resource Management:** Driving Value in Pharma PPM, Smarter Planning for Pharma PPM, Building Internal Capabilities
- 📌 **Data-Driven Decision Making & AI Integration:** AI & Automation in Pharma PPM, AI & Advanced Analytics in PPM, Integrating Emerging Technologies in PPM
- 📌 **Risk & Governance in Pharma Projects:** Preventing Costly Failures in Pharma Projects, Proactive Mitigation & Contingency Planning, Implementing Effective Governance Forums in Pharma
- 📌 **Leadership & Collaboration in PPM:** Culture & Strategy, Cross-Functional Collaboration & Breaking Silos for Success, Leading High-Performing Teams
- 📌 **Project Management Methodologies & Best Practices:** Waterfall, Agile & Hybrid Approaches, Lean & Six Sigma for Pharma Project Excellence, Managing Complexity

Testimonials

**Blerim Shkodra**

Sr Director Capital Procurement & Category Leader
Lonza



It was a real pleasure being part of this great event.

**David Swift**

Senior Procurement Leader
Lonza



Great discussions and insights from some of the best in the business

**Mugunthan Maheswaran**

Sr Project Manager, Technology, Digital & Operational Excellence
Roche



It was a very transparent discussion on Agile, waterfall and hybrid methodologies. I have fully enjoyed participating in this panel!

**Christophe De Vleeschouwer**

Director, Pipeline Project Management
GSK Vaccines



Very good and engaging discussion! Thanks Why Summits for being part of the panel

**Bhaskar V. Sathaye**

Lead Project Engineer
The Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson



A big bravo to the Why Summit Team for organizing the great conference. Excellent speakers, fantastic attendee!

**Noel Decker**

VP and Head, Science & Development Project Management, Strategy and Business Operations
Emergent BioSolutions



Reflecting on my participation in the 22nd American Pharma and Biotech Project, Program, and Portfolio Management Conference in San Francisco last week, I am inspired by the wealth of knowledge shared and the incredible community of experts and lifelong learners I had the pleasure of working with and connecting to.

**Zane Zaleska**

Senior Project Manager



The Why Summit conference touched not only my mind, but also my heart. So many presenters emphasized the people skills and common sense in PPM which aligns with my personal values. At the core of every project are people and their wellbeing

**Raffaele Marranzini**

CEO
Platflow



Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak in front of this specialized PPM audience within the broader context of PLM.

**Peter C. Luke**

Project Corporate Vice President - API Expansion
Novo Nordisk



Thanks for the opportunity to share lessons learned at the conference. Also, very well planned and managed event with great speakers and highly relevant network. Big thanks to Radoslava Gregová and Tomas Rendek for their very professional support.

**Emmanuel Happe**

Senior Leader | Global Director



Thanks to Why Summits and the Great Speakers and Panels. Very inspiring. So many great things to do to provide a better Life for our patients

**Dhawal Upadhyay**

General Manager - Global Program Management
Intas Pharmaceuticals (Biopharma division)



It was an honor to be part of such a prestigious event and to contribute to discussions. Thanks Why Summits for the opportunity to engage with such a knowledgeable audience and networking with industry leaders !!

**Dave Penndorf**

PPM Advisor
Groundswell Pharma Consulting, LLC.



Always a fun time MCing the Why Summits conferences! It's the intersection of a topic I'm so deeply passionate about (PPM), the industry I know so much about (life science in general, pharma in particular), and the people who - dare I say it - have become my friends.

Industry **Pioneers** Attending From



GSK  **Pfizer** *Lilly*  **MERCK**  **Roche** **sanofi** *AstraZeneca* 

 **Bristol Myers Squibb**  **NOVARTIS** **abbvie**  **Boehringer Ingelheim** **Johnson & Johnson**

AMGEN  **VERTEX**  **Genmab**  **GILEAD**  **Takeda**  **novo nordisk**

 **BAYER** **teva**  **Biogen**  **Daiichi-Sankyo** **CSL**  **Otsuka**  **Adaptimmune**

 **Mylan**  **astellas**  **VIATRIS** **SANDOZ** **BIONTECH** **moderna**

Our past Speakers and Panelists



Richard Bayney

President & Founder, Project & Portfolio Value Creation



Anusha Sivaramakrishnan

Executive Director, Head - Enterprise Project Management and Governance
Arvinas



Brandie Jonas

Senior Director, Clinical Program Management
Geron



Caroline Dewing

Executive Director, Head of Portfolio Planning
Ionis Pharmaceuticals



Chris Kramer

Vice President of Portfolio Planning & Market Insights
Ionis Pharmaceuticals



Ivan Kugener

VP, Head of Global Portfolio Management, Valuation & Analytics
EMD Serono



Kelvin Roddy

Senior R & D Director Program Management
Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc



Kristen Bequeath

Executive Director
Otsuka Pharmaceutical



Kristin Fitzgerald

Project Management Advisor
GSK



Mark Zhang

Head of Global Program Management Oncology II at Healthcare R&D
EMD Serono



Mike Fitzpatrick

Vice President of Business Development & Operations
Umoja Biopharma



Nataraj Dasgupta

VP Advanced Analytics
RxDataScience a Syneos Health Company



Peter Alberti

Associate Vice President of Strategy and Operations, Health Economics and Outcomes Research
MSD



Shane Larson

Senior VP, Strategic Operations
Beam Therapeutics



Uma Ellur Staehler

Executive Director, Global Diabetes Marketing
Eli Lilly



Vinod Nair

Director Strategy and Program Lead, Innovation Lab
Novartis



Yukang Zhao

Director, Corporate Program Management Office
Takeda

NIGHT BEFORE THE EVENT

5:30pm Meet & Greet

Welcome to our event! We're thrilled to have you with us and truly appreciate your presence.

Kick off the experience with **early registration and a relaxed networking session over drinks!** As delegates start arriving, this is the perfect opportunity to connect, catch up with familiar faces, and meet new industry peers. Whether it's **handshakes, conversations, or shared laughs**, we invite you to join us in setting the stage for an inspiring event. Cheers to new connections and meaningful discussions!

8:30

KEYNOTE: PORTFOLIO OPTIMIZATION & STRATEGY: DRIVING VALUE IN PHARMA PPM

- How pharma companies balance innovation, investment, and long-term value.
- Lessons from successful portfolio transformations.
- The evolving role of strategic decision-making in PPM.

9:00

RESERVED PRESENTATION

9:30

PANEL DISCUSSION: PORTFOLIO OPTIMIZATION & STRATEGY

Balancing long-term value creation with short-term adaptability.

- How do you define and measure portfolio success?
- What strategies help balance innovation and commercial viability?
- How do organizations adjust portfolios in response to market shifts?
- What role do scenario planning and forecasting play in strategic alignment?

10:00 NETWORKING BREAK

10:30

CASE STUDY: DATA-DRIVEN DECISION MAKING & SCENARIO PLANNING: A CASE FOR SMARTER CHOICES

- How a pharma company used real-time analytics to optimize portfolio decisions.
- The role of scenario planning in mitigating risk and improving agility.
- Measurable outcomes from shifting to a data-driven culture.

11:00

RESERVED PRESENTATION

11:30

PANEL DISCUSSION: Data-Driven Decision Making & Scenario Planning

How to make informed, data-driven portfolio decisions.

- What are the biggest obstacles to data-driven decision-making in PPM?
- How can predictive analytics improve scenario planning?
- What are the best ways to integrate qualitative insights with quantitative data?
- What tools and methodologies are most effective for scenario modeling?

12:00 LUNCH BREAK

13:00

FIRESIDE CHAT: THE FUTURE OF PHARMA PPM: WHAT'S NEXT FOR PORTFOLIO & PROJECT LEADERS?

- What will define success in pharma project management in the next five years?
- The biggest industry challenges leaders need to prepare for.
- Lessons from adapting to change in a rapidly evolving landscape.

13:30

RESERVED PRESENTATION

14:00

PANEL DISCUSSION: EMERGING TRENDS & TECHNOLOGIES IN PPM

The future of PPM in an evolving landscape.

- What new technologies will have the biggest impact on PPM?
- How should pharma companies prepare for digital transformation?
- What skills will be most valuable for PPM leaders in the future?
- What are some early examples of disruptive trends already changing the field?

14:30 NETWORKING BREAK

15:00 AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Each delegate can choose to attend one 60 minute session, either a "Workshop" or a "Think Tank" discussion.

PPM TOOLKIT WORKSHOP SERIES: EVOLVING PPM TOOLS IN PHARMA:

This workshop series is designed to help pharma PPM managers understand where PPM tools are heading, what's new, and how these tools solve common challenges in their daily work.

Each workshop focuses on a different aspect of PPM tool evolution, allowing participants to choose based on their specific interests and needs.

1. The Evolution of PPM Tools: From Traditional to Next-Gen

Best for: Pharma PPM managers who want a high-level view of how tools are evolving and where the industry is heading.

- The shift from static spreadsheets to AI-driven, automated PPM platforms.
- Key industry trends driving PPM tool evolution (real-time analytics, automation, data integration).
- What's changing in pharma PPM and why it matters for decision-making.
- **Case Study:** A pharma company's journey from legacy tools to next-gen portfolio management

2. Smart Portfolio Decision-Making: AI & Advanced Analytics in PPM

Best for: PPM managers looking to leverage AI for faster, smarter decision-making in their portfolios.

- How AI improves portfolio prioritization, risk assessment, and scenario planning.

- Predictive analytics: Using data to make informed investment trade-offs.
- AI-powered real-time decision dashboards vs. static reporting.
- **Case Study:** AI-driven portfolio forecasting in pharma.

3. Automating PPM: How New Tools Improve Efficiency & Collaboration

Best for: Teams struggling with manual processes and poor cross-functional coordination.

- How automation is reducing time-consuming PPM tasks.
- Best practices for integrating PPM tools across R&D, clinical, regulatory, and commercial functions.
- Managing cross-functional dependencies and data transparency.
- **Case Study:** A pharma company's success in streamlining PPM operations with automation.

4. Addressing the Common Challenges of Pharma PPM Managers with Next-Gen Tools

Best for: PPM leaders who want to solve common pharma PPM pain points with technology.

- How modern PPM tools solve pharma's biggest challenges (resource constraints, pipeline reprioritization).
- AI-driven scenario analysis for portfolio shifts and risk mitigation.
- Best practices for overcoming resistance to digital tools and ensuring adoption.
- **Case Study:** Overcoming key PPM roadblocks with an advanced tool implementation.

5. The Future of Pharma PPM: Integrating Emerging Technologies

Best for: Leaders who want to stay ahead of emerging trends in PPM and prepare for the future.

- How blockchain, digital twins, and NLP will impact pharma PPM.
- The growing role of cloud-based platforms for real-time global collaboration.
- AI-driven virtual assistants: How they will change PPM operations.
- **Case Study:** How early adopters of new PPM tech are gaining a competitive edge.

HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT WORKSHOP?

YOUR CHALLENGE / INTEREST

Want to understand **how PPM tools have evolved and what's next?**

Need to make **smarter, AI-driven portfolio decisions?**

Looking for ways to **automate tasks and improve team collaboration?**

Struggling with **common PPM challenges** (resource constraints, misalignment, slow decision-making)?

Want to stay ahead of **emerging technologies and future trends in PPM?**

Recommended Workshop

1. The Evolution of PPM Tools: From Traditional to Next-Gen
2. Smart Portfolio Decision-Making: AI & Advanced Analytics in PPM
3. Automating PPM: How New Tools Improve Efficiency & Collaboration
4. Addressing the Common Challenges of Pharma PPM Managers with Next-Gen Tools
5. The Future of Pharma PPM: Integrating Emerging Technologies

PPM TOOLKIT THINK TANKS:

The “think tank” format provides an opportunity to discuss PPM tools, best practices and their implementation in smaller groups.

These interactive discussions are led by facilitators and shaped by the participants. They are an ideal platform for knowledge sharing and learning about the challenges and successes that others encounter while navigating the ever-changing landscape of PPM tools.

1. PPM Tool Optimization: Real-World Lessons & Applications
2. Strategies for Effective Implementation
3. Beyond the Basics: Mastering PPM Tools for Success
4. PPM Tool Implementation in Regulated Environments
5. Customizing PPM Tools

16:00: End of Day 1

Conference Agenda

DAY 2

8:30

KEYNOTE: LEADERSHIP & CULTURE: THE FUTURE OF PHARMA PROJECT LEADERSHIP

- The leadership mindset needed for successful PPM.
- Fostering collaboration, innovation, and accountability.
- Preparing the next generation of pharma PPM leaders.

9:00

RESERVED PRESENTATION

9:30

PANEL DISCUSSION: CROSS-FUNCTIONAL COLLABORATION

Theme: Breaking down silos for more effective PPM execution.

- What are the biggest collaboration challenges between R&D, clinical, and commercial teams?
- How do you align stakeholders with different priorities?
- What structures or incentives improve cross-functional alignment?
- What role do digital collaboration tools play in bridging gaps?

10:00 NETWORKING BREAK

10:30

CASE STUDY: RISK MANAGEMENT: PREVENTING COSTLY FAILURES IN PHARMA PROJECTS

- How proactive risk management prevented project failures.
- The role of predictive analytics and AI in identifying risks early.
- Best practices for embedding risk awareness into PPM governance.

11:00

RESERVED PRESENTATION

11:30

PANEL DISCUSSION: RISK MANAGEMENT

Theme: Proactively managing risk across the pharma portfolio.

- What are the biggest emerging risks in pharma projects?
- How can AI and data analytics enhance risk mitigation strategies?

- What governance structures best support risk-based decision-making?
- How do you balance innovation with risk-taking in a regulated environment?

12:00 LUNCH BREAK

13:00

FIRESIDE CHAT: AI & AUTOMATION IN PHARMA PPM: GAME-CHANGER OR JUST ANOTHER TOOL?

- Where AI is actually making an impact vs. just hype.
- Can AI truly replace human judgment in decision-making?
- Ethical, operational, and strategic considerations for AI adoption.

13:30

RESERVED PRESENTATION

14:00

PANEL DISCUSSION: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN PPM

Theme: The impact of AI on project and portfolio management.

- How is AI transforming risk forecasting and resource planning?
- What are the challenges in AI adoption for PPM?
- How can AI-driven automation improve decision-making speed and accuracy?
- What ethical and regulatory considerations should pharma companies keep in mind?

14:30 BREAK

15:00 AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Each delegate can choose to attend one 60 minute session, either a "Workshop" or a "Think Tank" discussion.

WORKSHOPS: PM SKILLS TOOLKIT: ESSENTIAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT SKILLS FOR PHARMA MANAGERS

This workshop series is designed to help pharma project managers enhance their core competencies, ensuring they can navigate challenges, manage stakeholders, and drive projects to successful completion.

1. Strategic Thinking & Decision-Making for Pharma PMs

Best for: Pharma project managers looking to develop a strategic mindset for managing complex projects.

- How strategic thinking differs from tactical execution in pharma project management.

- Frameworks for making data-driven decisions in uncertain environments.
- Balancing short-term project milestones with long-term corporate objectives.
- **Case Study:** How strategic decision-making improved project outcomes in a pharma R&D pipeline.

2. Mastering Stakeholder Engagement & Cross-Functional Collaboration

Best for: PMs dealing with complex stakeholder environments across R&D, regulatory, commercial, and external partners.

- Identifying key stakeholders and mapping their influence in pharma projects.
- Best practices for communication and alignment between cross-functional teams.
- Managing conflicts and expectations in a highly regulated environment.
- **Case Study:** Successful stakeholder engagement in a pharma product launch.

3. Advanced Risk Management & Resource Optimization in Pharma Projects

Best for: PMs facing challenges with resource allocation, budget constraints, and project delays.

- Identifying and assessing risks in pharma projects (clinical, regulatory, supply chain).
- Proactive risk mitigation strategies and contingency planning.
- Optimizing project timelines and budget with effective resource allocation.
- **Case Study:** Risk management success in a high-stakes pharma clinical trial.

4. Leading High-Performing Teams in Pharma Project Management

Best for: PMs who lead diverse teams and want to enhance leadership and performance management skills.

- The role of emotional intelligence in pharma project leadership.
- Motivating and managing teams in a matrixed organizational structure.
- Managing remote and hybrid teams effectively.
- **Case Study:** How leadership techniques improved performance in a pharma development project.

5. The Future of Pharma Project Management: Digital & AI-Driven Approaches

Best for: PMs who want to stay ahead of digital transformation in project management.

- The impact of AI and digital tools on pharma project management.
- How automation is reshaping project tracking, reporting, and decision-making.
- Leveraging data analytics for better project forecasting and scenario planning.
- **Case Study:** AI-driven project management in pharma R&D

HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT WORKSHOP?

Your Challenge / Interest

Need to improve **strategic decision-making** in pharma projects?

Want to enhance your **stakeholder management and communication skills**?

Struggling with **resource constraints, timelines, and project risks**?

Need to improve team **leadership and performance management**?

Want to stay ahead by **leveraging digital tools and AI in project management**?

Recommended Workshop

1. Strategic Thinking & Decision-Making for Pharma PMs

2. Mastering Stakeholder Engagement & Cross-Functional Collaboration

3. Advanced Risk Management & Resource Optimization in Pharma Projects

4. Leading High-Performing Teams in Pharma Project Management

5. The Future of Pharma Project Management: Digital & AI-Driven Approaches

PPM CHALLENGE THINK TANKS:

- Practical, solution-focused discussions—no generic theory, only real-world applications.
- Engage with peers facing similar challenges—learn from their experiences.
- Walk away with actionable strategies, toolkits, and best practices.

1. PPM Challenge Think Tank: Breaking the Decision Bottleneck

Focus:

- Why decision-making delays happen in pharma projects.
- Governance models that accelerate approvals.
- Tools and frameworks for structured, faster decision-making.

Discussion Points:

- How to eliminate bottlenecks in governance forums.
- Effective escalation paths and decision-tracking tools.
- Case studies of pharma companies that improved decision speed.

Key Outcome:

Participants leave with actionable strategies to streamline decision processes in their organizations.

2. PPM Challenge Think Tank: Prioritization & Portfolio Visibility

Focus:

- Managing competing priorities with limited resources.
- Frameworks for aligning projects with corporate strategy.
- Data-driven approaches to improve portfolio visibility.

Discussion Points:

- How do you currently prioritize projects—what works and what doesn't?
- Best methods for balancing long-term pipeline vs. short-term wins.
- Tools that provide real-time visibility into portfolio performance.

Key Outcome:

Participants will explore prioritization models they can implement to optimize portfolio decisions.

3. PPM Challenge Think Tank: Cross-Functional Collaboration in Pharma PPM

Focus:

- Breaking silos between R&D, clinical, regulatory, and commercial teams.
- Managing cross-functional dependencies in pharma projects.
- Improving communication flows to align teams effectively.

Discussion Points:

- Common challenges in collaboration across departments.
- Success stories of cross-functional alignment in pharma.
- Best practices for setting up collaborative governance structures.

Key Outcome:

Attendees will gain practical strategies to improve collaboration and information sharing.

4. PPM Challenge Think Tank: Resource & Capacity Planning in Complex Portfolios

Focus:

- How to avoid team overload and burnout while keeping projects on track.
- Tools for capacity planning and resource optimization.
- Aligning portfolio execution with real-world constraints.

Discussion Points:

- How do you ensure the right people are working on the right projects?
- Capacity planning tools that help forecast resource gaps.
- Balancing flexibility vs. structured resource allocation.

Key Outcome:

Participants will take away resource management frameworks that prevent overloading and inefficiency.

5. PPM Challenge Think Tank: Proactive Risk Management in Pharma Projects

Focus:

- Identifying risks early to prevent project failures.
- Risk-mitigation strategies tailored for pharma projects.
- How AI & analytics can improve risk forecasting.

Discussion Points:

- What risk assessment tools are most effective in pharma?
- Best practices for scenario planning and contingency strategies.
- Real-world examples of successful risk mitigation in pharma portfolios.

Key Outcome:

Attendees will leave with ready-to-use risk management strategies for their projects.

16:00: End of Day 2

8:30

KEYNOTE: THE FUTURE OF RESOURCE FORECASTING – SMARTER PLANNING FOR PHARMA PPM

Explore how advanced forecasting models, AI-driven analytics, and scenario planning are transforming resource management in pharma. Learn how to balance demand and capacity, optimize workforce allocation, and ensure teams have the right skills at the right time to drive project success.

9:00

RESERVED PRESENTATION

9:30

PANEL DISCUSSION: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT & OPTIMIZATION

Theme: Allocating resources effectively across complex pharma portfolios.

- What are the biggest challenges in resource allocation?
- How do organizations balance strategic projects with limited resources?
- What tools and frameworks help forecast and optimize resource demand?
- How can AI-driven resource planning improve productivity and reduce bottlenecks?

10:00 NETWORKING BREAK

10:30

CASE STUDY: BUILDING INTERNAL CAPABILITIES: ENHANCING ORGANIZATIONAL COMPETENCIES FOR PHARMA PPM

- How structured capability-building programs improved project execution.
- The role of digital tools and AI in upskilling teams and optimizing workflows.
- Best practices for fostering a learning culture and cross-functional collaboration.

11:00

RESERVED PRESENTATION

11:30

PANEL DISCUSSION: BUILDING INTERNAL CAPABILITIES

Theme: Developing the right skills and structures to support effective PPM.

- What core competencies should pharma project managers develop?
- How do you build a culture of continuous learning and innovation?

- What role do mentorship and leadership development play in capability building?
- How can organizations future-proof their PPM teams for evolving challenges?

12:00 LUNCH BREAK

13:30 AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS

PM METHODOLOGIES TOOLKIT WORKSHOPS: MASTERING PROJECT MANAGEMENT METHODOLOGIES IN PHARMA

This workshop series will explore five key project management methodologies, providing pharma project managers with practical insights, real-world applications, and tools to choose the right approach for their projects.

1. WATERFALL PROJECT MANAGEMENT IN PHARMA: ENSURING COMPLIANCE & STRUCTURE

Best for: Pharma PMs managing projects with clear, sequential phases, such as clinical trials, regulatory submissions, or manufacturing processes.

- Overview of the Waterfall methodology and why it's ideal for structured, high-regulation projects.
- How to define project scope, milestones, and deliverables at each stage.
- Ensuring compliance and documentation in a Waterfall-driven project.
- **Case Study:** A pharma company's successful regulatory submission using Waterfall.

2. AGILE & SCRUM IN PHARMA: DRIVING INNOVATION & ADAPTABILITY

Best for: PMs working on fast-moving, iterative projects like digital transformation, AI adoption, or data-driven initiatives.

- Understanding Agile principles and how they apply to pharma project management.
- Using Scrum frameworks for sprint-based project execution.
- How Agile accelerates decision-making while maintaining compliance.
- **Case Study:** Implementing Agile in a pharma R&D digital transformation project.

3. HYBRID PROJECT MANAGEMENT: COMBINING AGILE & WATERFALL FOR PHARMA SUCCESS

Best for: PMs managing projects that require both flexibility and structure, such as drug development, supply chain improvements, or tech implementations.

- How to blend Waterfall's structured approach with Agile's adaptability.
- Best practices for deciding which parts of a project should follow each methodology.
- Managing hybrid teams with different work styles.
- **Case Study:** How a pharma company successfully applied Hybrid PM to accelerate time-to-market.

4. LEAN & SIX SIGMA FOR PHARMA PROJECT EXCELLENCE

Best for: PMs looking to reduce inefficiencies, optimize resources, and improve quality in pharma operations.

- Understanding Lean principles and Six Sigma's DMAIC framework.
- Identifying and eliminating bottlenecks in pharma project workflows.
- How Six Sigma improves quality control and regulatory compliance.
- **Case Study:** Applying Lean & Six Sigma to streamline pharmaceutical manufacturing.

5. CRITICAL CHAIN & PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT: MANAGING COMPLEXITY IN PHARMA PROJECTS

Best for: PMs handling large-scale, high-risk projects with multiple dependencies, such as drug development pipelines or global clinical trials.

- What is Critical Chain Project Management (CCPM) and how does it differ from traditional methods?
- Identifying and managing project bottlenecks and constraints.
- Integrating portfolio management for better resource distribution and strategic alignment.
- **Case Study:** A pharma company's approach to managing a global portfolio using Critical Chain methodology.

14:00

RISK MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE TOOLKIT WORKSHOPS: RISK MANAGEMENT FOR PHARMA PROJECT MANAGERS

RISK MANAGEMENT TOOLKIT

Risk is an inherent part of pharmaceutical project management, from R&D and clinical trials to regulatory approvals and commercialization. This workshop series equips pharma project managers with practical tools and strategies to identify, assess, mitigate, and communicate risks effectively.

Each workshop focuses on a specific aspect of risk management, allowing participants to attend based on their needs.

1. Identifying & Assessing Risks in Pharma Projects

Best for: Pharma PMs who need to identify and analyze risks early to prevent costly project failures.

- Understanding Pharma Project Risks: Regulatory, clinical, financial, operational risks.
- Risk Identification Tools: Risk registers, failure mode analysis, checklists.
- Risk Assessment Frameworks:
- Probability vs. impact matrix (qualitative).
- Monte Carlo simulations, decision trees (quantitative).
- **Case Study:** How a pharma company successfully identified and mitigated early-stage project risks.

2. Proactive Risk Mitigation & Contingency Planning

Best for: PMs who need to develop structured mitigation and contingency strategies for high-priority risks.

- Mitigation Strategies: Avoidance, reduction, transfer (insurance, outsourcing), acceptance.
- Building a Contingency Plan: Response actions for different risk categories.
- Scenario Planning for Pharma Risks: Preparing for clinical trial failures, regulatory delays, supply chain disruptions.
- **Case Study:** A pharma R&D team's successful response to a major project crisis.

3. Monitoring, Communicating & Embedding Risk Culture

Best for: PMs responsible for ongoing risk monitoring, reporting, and fostering a risk-aware culture.

- Real-Time Risk Tracking & Monitoring: AI-driven tools, dashboards, predictive analytics.
- Communicating Risk Effectively: Best practices for engaging stakeholders, executives, and regulatory bodies.
- Embedding Risk Governance into Decision-Making: Aligning with ICH Q9, FDA, EMA expectations.
- **Case Study:** How a pharma organization built a risk-conscious project culture and improved decision-making.

Key Takeaways from the Series:

- Ready-to-use risk management toolkit (risk registers, risk matrices, contingency templates).
- Practical case studies demonstrating real-world pharma risk management.
- Best practices for integrating risk awareness into pharma project workflows.

Would you like any adjustments to tailor these workshops for a specific audience (clinical, regulatory, commercial)?

GOVERNANCE TOOLKIT

1. IMPLEMENTING EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE FORUMS IN PHARMA

Objective:

Learn how to design and implement governance forums that streamline decision-making, improve cross-functional collaboration, and accelerate project execution in pharma.

Key Topics:

- Why governance forums matter in pharma project management.
- Building an effective governance structure (decision-making authority, escalation paths).
- Best practices for implementation (meeting structure, data dashboards, KPIs).

Conference Agenda

DAY 3

- Overcoming challenges (resistance, flexibility, continuous improvement).

Key Takeaways:

- Ready-to-use governance templates.
- Strategies for faster decision-making & alignment.
- Tools for tracking governance effectiveness. How to Choose the Right Workshop?

How to Choose the Right Workshop?

Your Challenge / Interest

Need to identify and assess risks in pharma projects?
Struggling with developing risk mitigation and contingency plans?
Want to improve risk tracking, reporting, and governance?

Recommended Workshop

1. Identifying & Assessing Risks in Pharma Projects
2. Proactive Risk Mitigation & Contingency Planning
3. Monitoring, Communicating & Embedding Risk Culture

15:30 NETWORKING BREAK

16:00

FINAL SESSION: PPM CHALLENGE THINK TANK – TURNING INSIGHTS INTO ACTION (60 MIN)

Objective:

Facilitate interactive discussions where delegates reflect on key takeaways, exchange insights, and define actionable next steps.

Format:

- Roundtable discussions with small groups.
- Facilitated conversation using guided prompts.
- Group sharing of key insights and next steps.

Discussion Topics:

- Biggest takeaways from the conference.
- How insights solve real-world PPM challenges.
- Practical steps for implementation.

Wrap-Up:

- Groups share key insights.
- Moderator summarizes common themes and closing remarks.

Outcome:

- Clear action items for implementation.
- New industry connections and collaboration opportunities.

17:00 END OF THE CONFERENCE

2025 PPM Summits Worldwide



- 1** 22 – 23 January, BARCELONA
28th European Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 2** 29 – 30 January, SAN DIEGO
American Strategic Portfolio Management in Life Sciences – West Coast
- 3** 3 – 4 April, BASEL
29th European Biopharma Project Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 4** 9 – 10 April, CHICAGO
2nd American Medical Device Project & Portfolio Management Conference
- 5** 15 – 16 April, PHILADELPHIA
24th American Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 6** 14 – 15 May, LONDON
European Strategic Portfolio Management in Life Sciences
- 7** 3 – 4 June, COPENHAGEN
Biopharma PPM in Clinical Research and Development Summit Edition
- 8** 11 – 12 June, BERLIN
2nd European MedTech Summit 2025 – Medical Device Project & Portfolio Management Conference
- 9** 11 – 12 June, SAN FRANCISCO
25th American Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 10** 5 – 6 August, SINGAPORE
Asian Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 11** 3 – 4 September, MELBOURNE
Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 12** 10 – 11 September, MUMBAI
3rd Strategic Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference for Pharmaceuticals
- 13** 8 – 9 October, BASEL
30th European Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 14** 15 – 17 October, BOSTON
26th American Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 15** 22 – 23 October, LONDON
31st European Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 16** 9 – 11 December, LAS VEGAS
2nd Annual PPM TOOLBOX SUMMIT

Our Partners



Contact us

Updated: 4 March, 2025
for the latest programme update, please
download agenda on conference website



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Disclaimer:

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