

The QbD Group acquires life sciences consultancy Azierta to reinforce its global vigilance services and expand its presence in Spain

Wilrijk, Belgium, & Madrid, Spain September 5, 2023 – The QbD Group, a privately held company offering comprehensive support to life sciences companies, today announced the acquisition of Azierta, a life sciences and health consultancy currently counting 70 multi-skilled employees. Azierta is focused on providing services in areas such as pharmacovigilance, compliance & GxP, regulatory affairs, audits and certification, and scientific and medical affairs.

For more than 12 years, Azierta has accompanied organizations in the life sciences industry, especially in the pharmaceutical and medical device sectors, through the entire lifecycle of their products or services. The core services that Azierta provides are safety management and monitoring, regulatory affairs, compliance and GxP, and scientific and medical affairs. These services include supporting the surveillance of life sciences products and providing strategic scientific and regulatory expertise. These aspects drew the attention of QbD who wished to round out its portfolio of complementary services, covering the lifecycle from idea to patient. QbD will be adding Azierta's vigilance expertise to its services for the medical device and pharmaceutical industries.

The combined expertise and capabilities of QbD and Azierta will give clients the benefit of over a decade of experience and broader, more integrated solutions. By joining forces with Azierta's team in Madrid, the QbD group, with an office in Barcelona, strengthens their Spanish presence with more than 100 experts. Both partners are focused on providing quality vigilance services and expanding their pool of expert resources not only in Spain and Portugal, but also in Latin America.

Ángel Navarro, founder and CEO of Azierta said:

"I feel that my dream as founder of Azierta's concept will be successfully developed and promoted within this collaboration. This project maintains the essence of what we have been doing, while adding the synergy, vision, and organization of an innovative, international, and polyvalent group such as QbD. My dream was born 12 years ago, and now I am excited to continue living it with QbD while helping QbD share its scientific and business value with Iberia and Latin America."

Bart Van Acker, founder and CEO of QbD Group, added: *"The addition of Azierta is the latest step towards our 'QbDream' through strategic acquisitions and alliances. It will broaden our comprehensive range of skills and expertise to support product development throughout the life sciences. Since 2015 we have a presence in Spain but together with Azierta we will become of one the largest groups in the Spanish life sciences ecosystem. On top of*

this, we also add additional expertise to the group which we can scale to all QbD group customers.

Even in our first discussions, I felt that Azierta and QbD share the same values so I am confident that together we will be able to achieve great things."

About Azierta

Azierta is a global consulting firm specialized in Life Sciences & Health, with a "Science to Business to People" culture and a 360° approach. For over 12 years, they have accompanied their client throughout the entire product life cycle from its initial development to its marketing and commercialization.

Their goal is to continue leading knowledge and digital transformation, providing innovative solutions and offering "next generation" strategy consulting.

About QbD Group

Since 2011, Quality by Design (QbD) has been providing solutions for product development and manufacturing. The QbD Group's team offers the skills and expertise for solving complex problems in quality assurance, validation & qualification, regulatory affairs, clinical, lab services, software solutions & services, and business & communication for companies active in the biotech, small molecules, digital health, medical device & IVD industries. QbD Group is headquartered in Belgium and has over 600 consultants worldwide in the Netherlands, Spain, France, the UK, Switzerland, Austria, Mexico, Colombia, and the US.

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