Sanofi-Genzyme Elevates Vaccine Research Teams' Efficiency with Leankor

leankor™

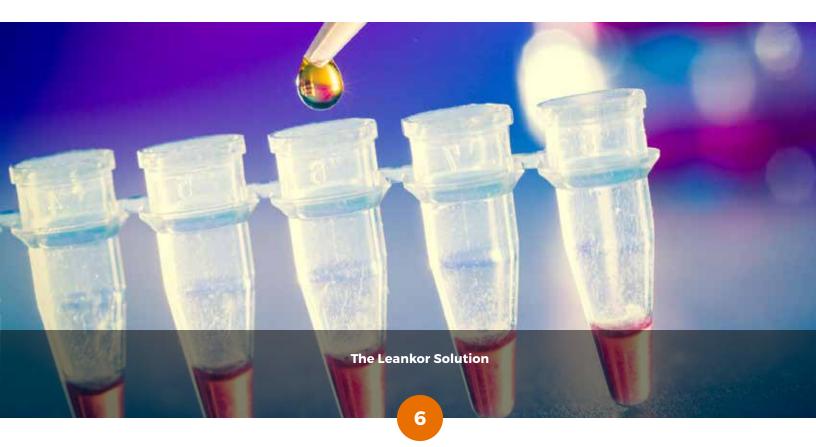The Leankor Solution

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Case Study

Vaccination researchers enhance their workflow, long term planning, recording abilities and stakeholder transparency with visual workflow management solution.

S anofi-Genzyme, a French multinational corporation, claims the spot as fifth largest pharmaceutical company, as measured by prescription sales. However, their R&D department, a small group with big expectations, was experiencing some growing pains before they partnered with Leankor.

Their vaccination researchers were finding that they were outgrowing their former organizational tactics and services. As their team expanded, formerly pristine spreadsheets were becoming cluttered and cumbersome. Management knew that it was time for a more robust system to ensure that productivity continued to improve over

time, and that stakeholders' view to their activities did not become clouded. Leankor was the flexible solution that ticked every box, from project planning and testing, to collaboration with those outside of the system.

The Challenge

Quality research is the core of Sanofi-Genzyme's success - but their researchers were becoming increasingly distant from the long term planning process, and it became apparent that the lines of communication between the labs and stakeholders needed improvement.

Long term planning is critical in the field of vaccination research, as, unlike other industries that experience turnarounds every year (if not more frequently), the teams' findings can take up to fifteen years to complete. However, the work is also fluid, with the total development lifecycle including many smaller accomplishments in the lead up to an officially vetted vaccination.

Lastly, vaccination development teams must be able to coordinate and exchange information easily with other internal teams, and have a place to store information that is intuitive, easy to access and user friendly. There could be no risk of information being lost by being placed in the wrong spreadsheet or document, which would negate all of the hard work of the researchers and development teams. It was clear that the team had simply outgrown spreadsheets.

"Leankor's flexible project management solution has revived the relationship between project management and bench scientists at Sanofi.

The ability to create and visualize our plans and adjust in a user friendly interface has greatly enhance the planning and analysis of our projects and portfolio as a whole," said Robert Schrader, at Sanofi–Genzyme.

"We collaborate more effectively, identifying risks, gaps, and other issues before they become a problem. We manage the tool, the tool doesn't manage us! As a result, downstream partners are provided with better, more accurate forecasts which will result in much stronger partnerships and better run programs."

The Leankor Solution

The team at Sanofi-Genzyme agreed that Leankor was the obvious solution after testing it on a carefully selected initiative that was notoriously complicated. The platform's visual, user friendly workflow allowed them to easily automate much of the process without disrupting a single team member's workflow. The Leankor team assisted with the already incredibly simple installation and customization process, and continues to work with the Sanofi team to ensure that the Leankor platform meets and exceeds all expectations, and that Sanofi is cured of all project management and communication barriers.

Cross-Departmental Communication

Leankor offers automated updates throughout the system. What does that mean, specifically? If a lab tech marks a particular step as "done," that update is not only publicized for that project, but also for any other project that may be relying on that step. In the long run, this means that not only is the entire R&D department privy to the update, but marketing, operations, and stakeholders are also able to easily sign in and see the current status, and how if affects other tasks.

Micro-to-Macro Planning

A major hurdle facing the Sanofi-Genzyme team was that planning had to be done both on a micro-level - days, hours, or even minutes - and then successfully merged with long-term planning - years or even decades - without anything getting lost in communication. This challenge became unwieldy as more teams alternated between using the proprietary internal project management software for long term announcements and decisions, and a more informal system of emails and spreadsheets for daily changes. They needed a system that could marry the two very different, but very useful systems, and add an organizational component that would simplify all of the data inputted.

Leankor's solution to this is the incredibly flexible visual planning system, which, initially, resembles a Kanban board or Gantt chart, and can be modified and customized over time depending on the needs of teams. What's more, each team can have a custom workflow and planning system, and still integrate with other departments and the company as a whole.

Unparalleled User Experience and Customer Service

Sanofi's success can be partially attributed to their diverse teams that span across over fifty countries. However, this means that each team and employee will have a varied needs and level of software proficiency.
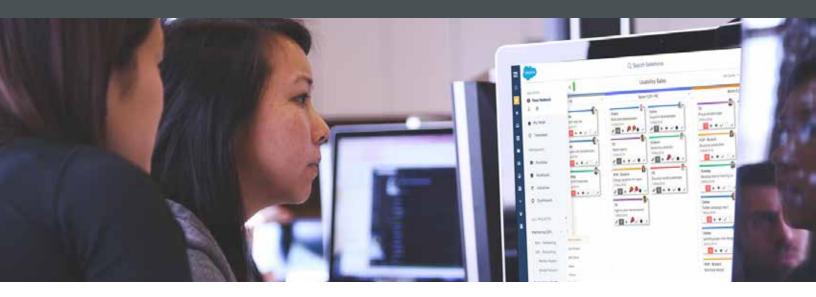
Employee time is valuable; for this reason, Leankor offers not only an unparalleled user experience from installation, but also ongoing customer support and success. Sanofi was able to skip the hours of training that other software often requires to learn the customization toolset, and instead delegate the changes they required to the Leankor customer support team that was readily available. In a matter of hours, their system was ready for use.

"The Leankor team is great to great to work with as they took the time to discuss and understand our challenges. Ultimately they helped us, through Leankor, to simplify our complex project structure into simple, more manageable work packages," said Schrader.

Do Great Work, Together, with Leankor

Workflow and project management should never be separated - they're two sides of the same coin. With Leankor, you automate workflows, manage projects, mobilize teams and track progress throughout your organization with one simple solution.

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