

# ASN Newsletter

## Alimentiv Site Network Update

### SPED 2025: Advancing Digestive Health Across the Americas

**Anderson Porto**, Director, Regional Clinical Operations at Alimentiv, recently returned from Semana Panamericana de Enfermedad Digestiva (SPED) 2025 in Lima, Peru.

This Pan American Week of Digestive Diseases brings together leading experts in gastroenterology, hepatology, and endoscopy for a premier scientific exchange.



The congress featured keynote lectures, symposia, and hands-on workshops highlighting the latest clinical and technological advances. Colleagues from across the region shared insights, fostered collaboration, and helped shape the future of digestive health.

# Pioneering Care, Research, and Sustainability in IBD: A Conversation with Dr. Marjolijn Duijvestein

**Dr. Marjolijn Duijvestein**, gastroenterologist and Head of GI Clinical Research at Radboud UMC in Nijmegen, is redefining how we approach inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)—through innovation, sustainability, and patient-centered care.

## From Surgery to Gastroenterology

Initially drawn to surgery during medical school, Dr. Duijvestein discovered her passion for gastroenterology with the encouragement of mentors and went on to complete a PhD on stem cell therapy for IBD. That foundation continues to shape her combined clinical and research focus today.

## Greener Medicine

Sustainability is central to her work. Hospitalizations and patient travel account for most of IBD's carbon footprint. Her advice: treat effectively to prevent admissions, reduce travel with teleconsults and same-day diagnostics, and embrace alternatives like **intestinal ultrasound (IUS)**, which is both less invasive and environmentally friendly.

## Smarter Monitoring

Dr. Duijvestein is also leading innovations in digital health. A smart toilet seat pilot tracked disease activity passively, while a smart pill and wearables show promise in predicting or detecting flares before symptoms appear.



Dr Marjolijn Duijvestein

## Clinical Trials and the Road Ahead

Trials remain essential but challenging, particularly with placebo arms and repeat endoscopies. Patient education helps overcome barriers—reminding participants that today's treatments exist thanks to earlier research volunteers. She also calls on sponsors to provide clear training materials on drug mechanisms of action.

Her outlook is hopeful: from appendectomy studies to combination therapies and epigenome-based drug matching, the future of IBD care lies in balanced, holistic approaches.

"High-quality care means caring for patients, for ourselves, and for the planet."

 [Read the full interview](#)

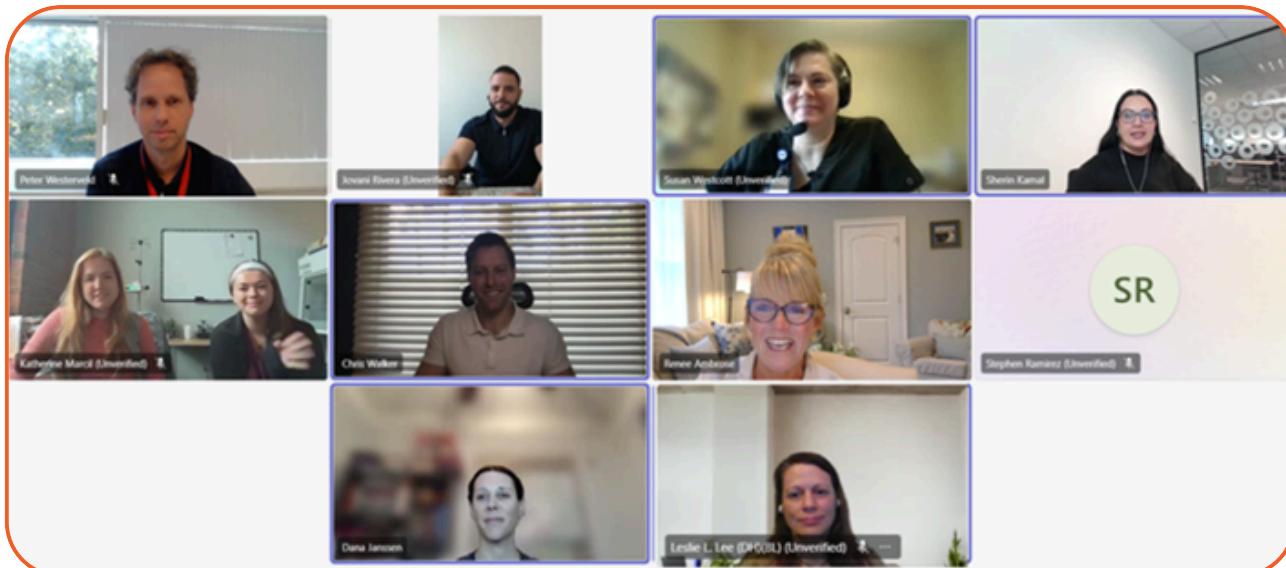
## Shaping the Future: Study Coordinator Focus Group

We are excited to share the success of our first **Study Coordinator Focus Group**, held on September 24. This new initiative brought together coordinators from across the industry to exchange experiences, discuss challenges, and share best practices—providing us with valuable insights into how we can better support them in their vital roles.

Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with participants praising both the open, engaging format and the opportunity to connect with peers. The insights gathered will guide our future strategies, particularly in **improving communication, streamlining processes, and enhancing the study coordinator experience**.

This was just the beginning. We plan to expand the initiative to include more study coordinators in upcoming sessions, ensuring that an even broader range of voices help shape how we collaborate.

We extend our sincere thanks to the coordinators who participated and to the teams who made this event possible. If you are a study coordinator and would like to join future focus groups, we encourage you to [contact us](#)—we would love to include you.



# Looking Ahead to Upcoming Conferences

Ending the year strong with some great conferences and opportunities to connect!

## UP NEXT:

**October 4-7, 2025**

**United European Gastroenterology (UEG) Week**

Berlin, Germany

[> Schedule a Meeting](#)



Peter Westerveld



Renee Ambrose

**November 13-15, 2025**

**SBAD (the Brazilian Digestive System Week)**

São Paulo, Brazil

**Meet with:** Anderson Porto



Anderson Porto

**December 8-10, 2025**

**Advances in Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (AIBD)**

Orlando, Florida, USA

**Meet with:** Renee Ambrose

**December 10-11, 2025**

**IBD Today and Tomorrow**

Amsterdam, Netherlands

**Meet with:** Peter Westerveld

## Building Better Site Support — Together

At Alimentiv, our success depends on strong partnerships with our clinical trial sites. To continue improving the way we collaborate, we are inviting you to participate in our **Site Survey**.

The survey should take no more than **5 minutes** to complete. Your input will help us:

- Assess current levels of satisfaction with our processes and support.
- Identify areas that require additional focus and resources.
- Ensure that our partnership model reflects your needs and expectations.

Your perspective is essential in guiding how we refine our services. We encourage you to complete the survey and share your honest feedback. Together, we can build an even stronger foundation for future studies.

 **Complete the Survey**

We look forward to sharing more  
ASN news and resources  
with you in **future newsletters**.