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# bionow® | News

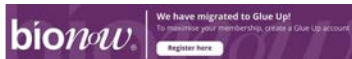
**Welcome to the Bionow monthly update:**

**September recap and look ahead**



## **Bionow News and Events**

The latest Bionow news and upcoming events



**Register for and activate your Glue Up account**

Bionow have migrated their website and CRM system to Glue Up, which is a significant upgrade and is great news for Bionow members.

The website makes it much easier for members to post news and jobs and register for events.

Once you have activated your account, you can access all the Bionow membership services available for your membership type. **You will need a Glue Up account to access these.**

For step-by-step instructions, [consult the how-to guide and FAQs.](#)

[Register here](#)

**Event speakers: We need you!**



Interested in sharing your expertise with the life sciences and biotech community? We are always looking for passionate speakers for upcoming Bionow events.

If you would like to be considered as a speaker, please complete the form in the link below and send it to our Events Manager, [Matt Daly](#).

[Register your interest](#)



### Subscribe to the Bionow LinkedIn newsletter

Check out Bionow's monthly LinkedIn newsletter for Premium Member, Partner and Sponsor news!

PLUS: Follow the [Bionow LinkedIn page](#) to keep up with all the latest company news and events, funding and business support opportunities, and more.

[Subscribe here](#)



MEMBER

**Bionow is delighted to welcome three new members!**

**We look forward to working with:**

Ryden | ValiRx Animal Health | MiDx

Our members are at the heart of what we do and by joining Bionow and working together we can achieve more. Bionow members have access to a fantastic range of benefits and services to assist with being globally competitive, delivering world class innovation and inspiring the next generation. Become part of our community!

[Join us](#)



## Partner Snapshot: Scientist.com

**Scientist.com is a Bionow Preferred Partner for life AI-driven procurement from concept to clinic.**

Scientist.com is a privately held, US-based company on a mission to make it faster and cheaper to discover new medicines. At its heart is an AI-powered marketplace for complex custom experiments that helps drug researchers use innovative technologies to rapidly translate their ideas into actionable data. Through Scientist.com, scientists communicate directly with research experts at over 4,000 global laboratories to design and execute complex research experiments.

Benefits of the marketplace include:

- Average direct cost savings of 16%.
- Indirect cost savings (legal, billing, QA & Compliance.)
- Soft savings of personal time, time to market, access to innovation.
- Dedicated marketplace support from Research Concierge and related services.
- Access to the world's largest CRO network.
- Dedicated Marketplace Support

**Bionow members receive 1/3 off the initial set up costs for the creation and implementation of a private marketplace**

Purchasing scheme



## Meet the Member: Firefinch Software Development

Firefinch Software builds custom software for the life sciences, medtech and biotech sectors. We work alongside our clients at each stage of their journey from prototyping, MVPs and commercialisation, including critical internal workflows.

Our specialist team combine deep domain knowledge with regulatory alignment built into our approach from the outset, setting you up for success at each milestone. To deliver this, we work across the full stack, from lab instrumentation code, to cloud platforms built for medical devices. Our partners range from start-ups, spin-outs, up to multinationals that require our specialist knowledge and support to translating their innovation into reliable, scalable, software.

Read more

**Bionow's inaugural BioInsight Conference  
combines innovation and collaboration across**



## Scotland and the Northern UK

**Bionow's first BioInsight Conference brought together delegates from across Scotland and the wider UK at the Health Innovation Hub in Glasgow to explore the ideas, technologies and collaborations shaping the future of life sciences. The event welcomed 100 researchers, industry leaders, innovators, investors and support organisations for a day of discussion, networking and knowledge sharing focused on translating innovation into impact.**

BioInsight created opportunities for attendees to exchange ideas, build new connections and examine the trends influencing the future of innovation and commercialisation. While the conference highlighted the strengths and opportunities within Scotland's thriving life sciences community, discussions also reflected the increasingly connected nature of the Northern UK ecosystem and the importance of collaboration across regions.

[Read more](#)



## How BioAI is taking hold in the North: A conversation with Geoff Davison

For Northern life sciences companies, the AI conversation is changing. The question is no longer whether the technology matters, but where it can deliver measurable commercial value and whether smaller businesses have the capital, data and skills to put it to work.

Few have a better view of that shift than Geoff Davison, CEO and Founder of Bionow, whose network spans more than 300 life sciences organisations across the North of the UK and beyond. Following Bionow's BioAI 2026 summit, he talks about the move from experimentation to adoption, what investors really want from AI-enabled companies and whether the technology can help close the UK's long-standing regional life sciences divide or risk widening it.

[Read more](#)

## Life Sciences Innovators Set to Take the Stage at BioCap 2026 Pitching Competition



Bionow is delighted to announce the shortlisted companies selected to take part in the BioCap 2026 Pitching Competition.

Chosen from a strong field of a record number of applicants, the shortlisted businesses will pitch directly to investors, industry experts and life sciences stakeholders, showcasing their innovations, growth ambitions and funding opportunities as part of this year's BioCap programme.

[Read more](#)



## ELRIG Drug Discovery 2026 Excel London

**14th - 15th October**

### **Bionow is a Media Partner of Drug Discovery 2026 – A Free Festival of Life Science!**

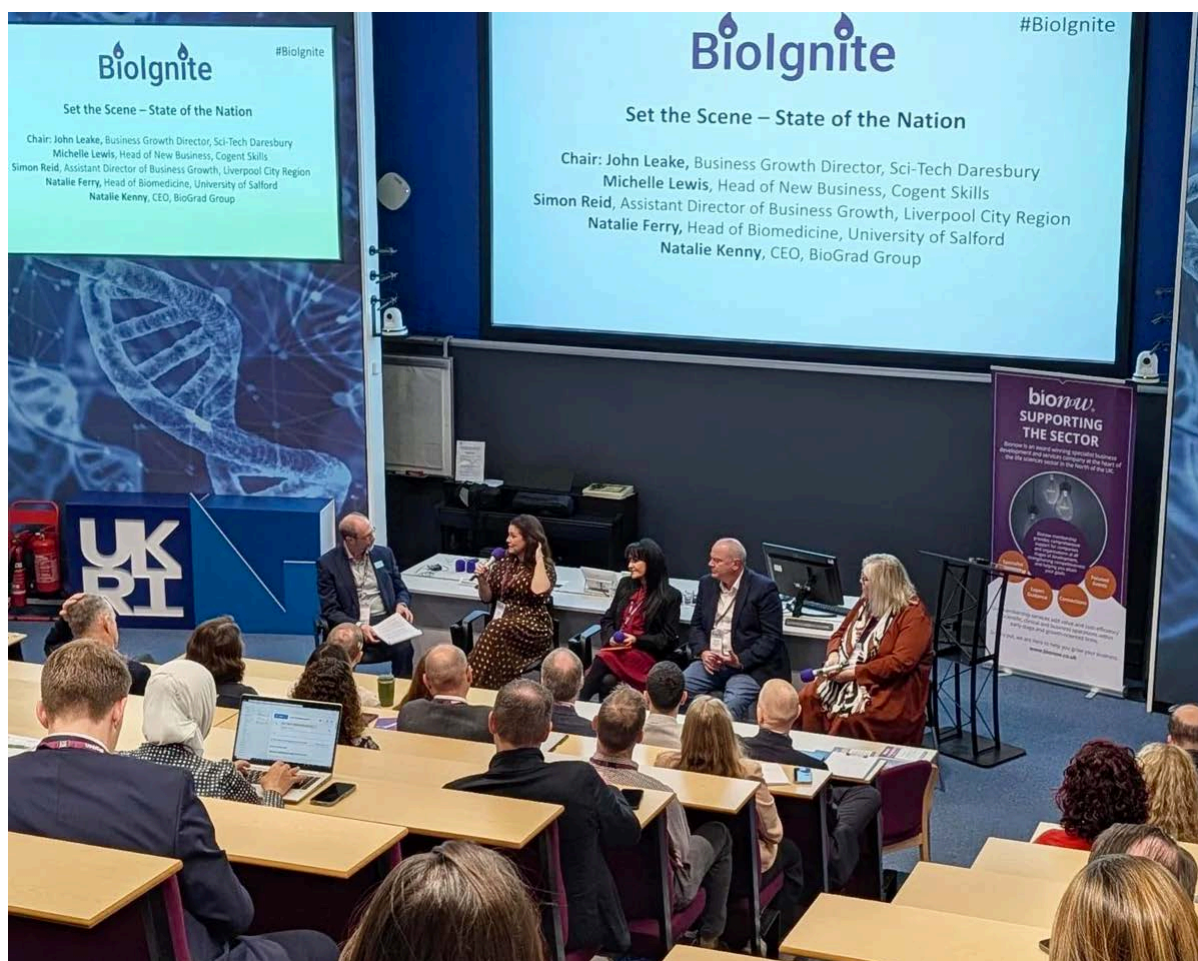
ELRIG's Drug Discovery 2026 is back at London's Excel, and as Europe's leading drug discovery and life sciences conference, it will have scientific tracks covering topics including Next Generation biophysics, microbes to medicines, multiomics, AI in compound discovery and in experimental design, and bioconjugation approaches in oncology.

This conference marks 20 years of ELRIG Drug Discovery and will have keynote sessions both reflecting on the past and looking towards the future. Once again, we will be hosting scientific content from partners such as SLAS, CRUK, The Microbiology Society, British Neuroscience Association and the Royal Society of Chemistry. The exhibition hall will provide attendees the opportunity to meet with, engage and learn from the leaders in drug discovery as well as leading product and service suppliers.

[Read more](#)

## Bionow Biolgnite Conference Sci-Tech Daresbury

Tuesday 20th October



### Sparking Growth Through Collaboration

Bionow's Biolgnite conference is back for 2026! Bringing together industry and academia to explore emerging innovation, sector initiatives and funding opportunities across life sciences, the bespoke agenda creates a focused environment for insight, discussion and connection.

The Biolgnite programme features a full day of expert panels and presentations covering industry trends, funding landscapes, and advances in AI and healthcare. Attendees will also hear from early-stage innovators and companies scaling in industrial biotechnology, alongside dedicated time for networking and exhibition.

Designed to support collaboration and knowledge sharing, Biolgnite offers practical insight and valuable connections to help ideas progress and businesses grow.

[Read more](#)



## Pioneer Connections: Pitching & Investment Insights with Bionow BioCity Glasgow

**Thursday 29th October**

Join us for Pioneer Connections: Pitching & Investment Insights with Bionow, bringing together life sciences innovators, investors and industry leaders for networking, company pitches, and expert investment insights.

Hosted by Pioneer Group, in partnership with Bionow, this event offers a chance to gain practical knowledge of the investment landscape, hear from experienced investors, and connect with organisations driving innovation and growth across the sector.

Attendees will have the opportunity to deliver an optional 90-second pitch to introduce themselves, their organisation and their work. It's the quickest way to showcase what you're working on and identify the right people in the room before the dedicated networking session. It's a fantastic opportunity to raise your profile and hear from other innovative businesses and emerging technologies from the life sciences community.

[Read more](#)



## Empowering Women in Biotech Bruntwood Scitech, Citylabs 1.0

**Thursday 5th November**



### Hear from inspirational women in the sector!

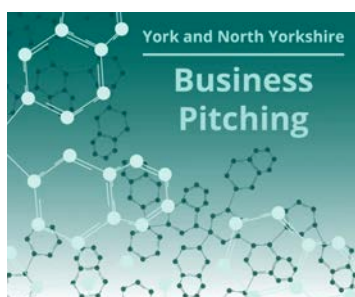
This event aims to bring together like-minded individuals working in the biotech and life science sector, and women looking to pursue a career in this industry. We will have talks from inspirational women in the industry on topics ranging from leadership, navigating change, to increasing the visibility of women in biotech and ways to connect with each other.

This is an inclusive event and **EVERYONE** is welcome.

We warmly encourage all expressions of gender to participate in this event. Feedback from our post-event surveys has shown that past attendees would have liked to see greater attendance from men across this event series.

**Due to the popularity of this event, tickets will be limited to maximum 3 delegates per organisation.**

[Read more](#)



**York and North Yorkshire Business Pitching  
Labcorp, Harrogate**

**NEW DATE: Wednesday 11th November**

**\*\*\*RESCHEDULED TO 11TH NOVEMBER\*\*\***

## Put your business in the spotlight

Organised and co-hosted by the York and North Yorkshire Health and Life Sciences Cluster Mobilisation Project, the afternoon will begin with a series of short pitches, offering attendees a valuable overview of the organisations taking part and the breadth of activity across the regional ecosystem.

This will be followed by a dedicated networking session, providing an opportunity to continue discussions, exchange ideas and develop new connections in a more informal and collaborative setting.

The event will conclude with the option to participate in guided tours of Labcorp's facilities, offering a behind-the-scenes insight into their work and capabilities.

[Read more](#)



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**Biotech & Beers**  
**HGF Offices, Leeds**

**Thursday 12th November**

**Biotech & Beers is coming to Leeds! All welcome.**

HGF is delighted to host and welcome the Bionow community to our Leeds office for an informal evening of networking, drinks and conversation. Whether you're looking to make new connections, explore potential collaborations or simply catch up with others working across the sector, we look forward to seeing you there.

**Places are very limited so please register via the link below to help us plan ahead.**

[Read more](#)



**London Biotechnology Show**  
**Excel London**

**18th - 19th November**

Bionow is proud to partner with the London Biotechnology Show 2026, taking place at Excel London this November, aligning with London Life Sciences Week to create one of the UK's most influential gatherings for the global life sciences and biotech community.

Bringing together 4,000+ attendees and 120+ exhibitors, the event will serve as a leading platform for innovation, strategic partnerships, investment opportunities, and high-level networking across biotechnology, healthcare, pharma, MedTech, and life sciences.

**BIONOW MEMBERS EXCLUSIVE OFFER: Get 15% off all packages. Contact [david.holmes@bionow.co.uk](mailto:david.holmes@bionow.co.uk) for a discount code.**

[Read more](#)

## **bionow<sup>®</sup>** **ONCOLOGY** CONFERENCE 2026

**Bionow Oncology Conference**  
**The Elm (formerly Apiary) at Alderley Park**

**Thursday 26th November**



### **Exploring the Future of Oncology**

The Bionow Oncology Conference brings together industry, researchers and clinicians to explore the latest advances and ongoing challenges in cancer research and innovation. The event provides a forum for sharing insight, fostering collaboration and supporting progress across the oncology ecosystem.

With cancer continuing to present a major global health challenge, innovation in oncology research and development remains critical. This conference will examine how advances in early detection, treatment approaches and enabling technologies are shaping the future of cancer care, and where further collaboration and investment are needed to improve patient outcomes.

[Read more](#)

### **Biotech & Beers**



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## The Churchill Tree, Alderley Park

Thursday 26th November



### Carry on the conversation after the Bionow Oncology conference as Biotech & Beers returns to Alderley Park on the evening of 26th November

Join us for an agenda-free networking evening that provides opportunities for conference attendees to network and socialise with their peers in an informal setting over a drink or two.

We look forward to catching up with you on Thursday 26th November. Meet us in the Green Room at The Churchill Tree pub, Alderley Park straight after the Oncology Conference.

[Read more](#)



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## Biotech & Bubbles The Town Wall, Newcastle

Thursday 3rd December



**Join us in Newcastle on 3rd December for a final (and festive) Biotech & Beers of the year. All welcome.**

As 2026 draws to a close, kick off the Christmas countdown with Bionow and the North East life sciences community for a very merry Biotech & Bubbles (Biotech & Beers: Festive Edition)!

Whether you've attended throughout the year or this will be your first Biotech & Beers, come along for an informal evening of conversation, connection and celebration with colleagues, collaborators and friends from across the sector. With no presentations, no agenda and no pressure, it's simply an opportunity to get together, share stories from the year, exchange ideas and enjoy a drink in good company.

[Read more](#)



**Genesis 2026**  
**1 Wimpole Street, London**

**Thursday 10th December**

Under a headline theme of Maximising Returns from Life Science Innovation the event will feature:

- High content mix of keynote talks and panel discussions from key opinion leaders
- NEW! Company Showcase stream of One Nucleus Awards finalists
- NEW! One Nucleus Awards including Gala Reception
- Networking with 400+ delegates on the day
- Option to arrange 1-2-1 meetings with delegates via the event app
- Genesis Fringe events for informal in-person networking
- Exhibition for invaluable innovation support from our network

Genesis 2026 is set to deliver a fantastic opportunity for the ecosystem to connect, collaborate and create return for innovators, investors, patients and society.

**10% DISCOUNT AVAILABLE FOR BIONOW MEMBERS: As a proud supporter of this event, Bionow can offer members discounted rates. Please contact [clara.borg@bionow.co.uk](mailto:clara.borg@bionow.co.uk) for the discount code.**

[Read more](#)

**If you would like to be involved with Bionow Events we would love to hear from you - contact [info@bionow.co.uk](mailto:info@bionow.co.uk)**

[Check out the Bionow events page](#)



### Member News

Keep up to date with Bionow Member, Partner and Sponsor News

## Dr Mike Strange appointed Chief Executive Officer of Medicines Discovery Catapult



Medicines Discovery Catapult (MDC) has appointed Dr Mike Strange as its Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Mike joined MDC in February 2025 as the organisation's first Managing Director and has served as Interim CEO since February 2026. He brings more than 25 years of experience spanning pharmaceutical and vaccine research and development, commercial operations, strategy and partnership development.

[Read More](#)

## Boyd's expands Regulatory Affairs team to support growing demand



Global drug development consultancy Boyd's has strengthened its award-winning Regulatory Affairs team with the appointment of two senior specialists, further expanding its ability to support life sciences companies as they navigate increasingly complex regulatory pathways.

[Read More](#)

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## Boyd's reports strong growth despite biotech sector headwinds



Global drug development consultancy Boyd's has reported robust revenue growth for the financial year ending March 2026, despite the slowdown in the global biotech and pharma markets.

Established in 2005, Boyd's provides specialist consultancy services to an international client base, supporting the development of new, cutting-edge medicines and medical devices for patient benefit.

By leveraging its specialist clinical and regulatory expertise in novel medicinal products including cell and gene therapy development, Boyd's has successfully navigated uncertainty across its clients' markets, which have faced declining investment and rising costs.

[Read More](#)

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## Astoriom Acquires Additional UK Storage Business to Expand Capacity and Service Offerings



Astoriom, a global leader in scientific research and consumer product sample stability and biorepository storage, has acquired Roylance Stability Storage Limited and Roylance Scientific Limited, the UK operations of life sciences stability storage provider Sampled, located in Glasgow. The acquisition further strengthens Astoriom's specialist storage and sample management capabilities, offering broader coverage, additional expertise and operational resilience to help safeguard the samples, materials and equipment that are critical to scientific research and product innovation.

[Read More](#)

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## A further £25.9m investment to back regional business and boost jobs



As part of North East Mayor Kim McGuinness' plans for business growth, the North East Mayoral Strategic Authority (North East MSA) has unveiled a new regional framework that will bring together the North East MSA and the seven local authorities to deliver a simpler, more coordinated business support system.

The formation of Business North East is part of Mayor Kim's plans to create inclusive economic growth in the region – supporting innovation and business development while creating more high-quality jobs for local people and supporting small businesses.

**The programme includes an investment of £25.9 million between January 2027 and March 2029.**

[Read More](#)

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## New standardised, contemporary strain panels address a long-standing barrier in AMR research



PACE and the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) have released five new contemporary antimicrobial resistance (AMR) strain panels, giving innovators worldwide a resource to test novel therapeutics and diagnostics against today's resistance patterns.

[Read More](#)

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## Region's leading health awards return for 20th anniversary



Businesses and organisations working in health and care are being encouraged to enter the 20th Bright Ideas in Health Awards, a milestone celebration of innovation across the North East and North Cumbria.

Organised by Health Innovation North East and North Cumbria (HI NENC), the awards celebrate the people, teams and partnerships developing new ideas,

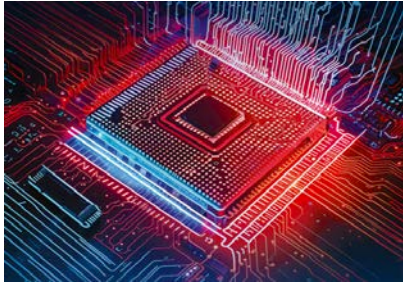
technologies and ways of working that improve patient care, healthcare services and health outcomes.

**Entries close at 11:59pm on Friday 27th November 2026**

[Read More](#)

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## Apply for a share of up to £8.5 million to develop and scale Engineering Biology platforms, products and services



Innovate UK, part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), will invest up to £8.5 million from the UKRI's Engineering Biology Programme.

The funding total is subject to a sufficient number of high quality applications being received.

The aim of this competition is to deliver business led research and development that will:

- lead to new engineering biology products, processes or services
- de-risk the adoption of new engineering biology technologies that offer high market potential

Your project must focus on developing or applying engineering biology solutions to one or more of the following themes:

- Health
- Agriculture and Food
- Chemicals and materials
- Low Carbon fuels
- Waste and environment
- Cross cutting technology, service development

**The competition closes at 11am on 3rd November 2026**

[Read More](#)

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## Medicines Discovery Catapult appoints global life science and commercialisation leaders to its Board of Directors



Medicines Discovery Catapult (MDC) has appointed Amira Modi and Dr Laura Fletcher to its Board of Directors, further strengthening its global life science and commercialisation expertise as MDC accelerates the translation of innovative science into treatments that reach patients faster.

[Read More](#)

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## Ready to take your healthcare AI innovation into the real world?



The University of Edinburgh's CHAI Hub are excited to announce the CHAI Catalyst Competition!

We're offering 3 x £50k CHAI seed awards to support projects focused on causality in AI for healthcare across the UK.

### Key Details:

- Funding: £50k seed award for 6–12 month projects
- Who can lead: UK residents & academic employees/students at UKRI-eligible institutions (who do not currently own/operate a registered business)
- Projects: Early-stage innovations (TRL 3 → TRL 5) with strong potential for UK economic and/or societal impact and relevance to causality in healthcare AI

**Applications Open: 2nd November 2026**

**Applications Close: 2nd December 2026**

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## New distribution agreement



We are thrilled to announce our new distribution agreement with HCT from South Korea to supply their accredited Certified Reference Material (CRM) particles across the UK and Europe. HCT are accredited to ISO 17034 for the manufacture of accredited particles.

In particle counting calibration and particle research, this is a game changer. This partnership allows PMT (GB) Ltd to bring world-class calibration standards directly to your laboratory.

[Read More](#)

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## Pioneer Group and Oxford Properties secure leading life sciences investment firm Syncona Investment Management Ltd at Victoria House



Pioneer Group and Oxford Properties have announced that Syncona Investment Management Ltd (SIML), a leading life science investment manager, is moving into Victoria House, a leading hub for life sciences in London.

Developed by Pioneer Group and Oxford Properties, Victoria House in Bloomsbury, London continues to build one of London's most inspiring life science communities, where an ever-growing number of pioneering organisations are driving innovation across science, biopharmaceuticals, gene therapies, synthetic biology and AI.

[Read More](#)

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## Biofortuna acquires Colibri Scientific strengthening Clinical Trials support in the UK

Breaking News



Biofortuna Limited, the specialist laboratory services and diagnostic CDMO, has completed the acquisition of Colibri Scientific Limited. The move underlines Biofortuna's commitment to supporting life-changing research and development across the healthcare and life sciences sectors.

This acquisition brings industry-leading expertise in clinical trial sample operations, further strengthening Biofortuna's service offering and accelerating the growth of its laboratory and sample management services.

[Read More](#)

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## £80m fund extension announced by PXN Ventures and British Business Bank's NPIF II



PXN Ventures and the British Business Bank have announced an £80m extension to NPIF II – PXN Equity Finance, taking the fund's total size from £100m to £180m.

The extension will allow PXN to invest in more of the North West's ambitious businesses through to 2030, following significant demand during the fund's first two years.

Since launching in 2024, PXN has received more than 3,000 applications and invested over £45m in 50 businesses, unlocking more than £50m of additional co-investment.

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## Liverpool Accelerate Laboratory launched at Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine



The Liverpool Accelerate Laboratory, a £20 million UK-first high-security facility located at Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and developed through iiCON, will accelerate the fight against deadly infections and help phase out animal testing.

Featuring advanced liquid handling, robotic systems and analytical equipment, this high security Containment Level 3 (CL3) lab will support academic and commercial innovation - leveraging advanced automated organoid infection R&D to accelerate the discovery of next-generation drugs and diagnostics.

[Read More](#)

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## SMi Systems opens new labs to accelerate early commercialisation



SMi Systems has signed an agreement to build new laboratory facilities at its UK headquarters, expanding its capacity to work with partners as the company accelerates commercialisation of its technology.

The new lab space will house SMi's assay development team and a new state-of-the-art microarray platform that accelerates volume manufacture of consumables. At the same time, SMi will open an in-house product manufacturing facility

that will act as the company's first instrument manufacturing site.

[Read More](#)

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## Medicines Discovery Catapult invests in UK biotech pioneers developing novel treatments for chronic diseases



Two UK biotechs developing novel approaches to treating diseases such as psoriasis and Parkinson's have secured investment and strategic support from Medicines Discovery Catapult (MDC) to accelerate their progress.

Flip Therapeutics and Nascent Therapeutics will each receive £500,000 in funding made available by Innovate UK as part of a scheme that enabled Catapults to invest in high-potential companies.

[Read More](#)

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## New £25.4m funding opportunity for early cancer diagnostics



A significant new funding opportunity is opening for organisations developing technologies that could improve the early detection and diagnosis of cancer.

On behalf of the Office for Life Sciences' Cancer Healthcare Goals programme, Innovate UK is launching a competition offering up to £25.4 million for projects focused on the clinical validation and evaluation of early cancer diagnostic technologies and devices.

Grants of £1.5 million to £4 million are available for industrial research and experimental development projects lasting between 24 and 36 months.

**Competition closes: 28th October 2026 at 11am**

[Read More](#)

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## Forging founders faster: Introducing the Cancer Research Horizons Therapeutic Accelerator



Turning a promising discovery into a therapeutic takes more than great science — it requires the right expertise, guidance and network. The Cancer Research Horizons Therapeutic Accelerator, a new accelerator dedicated exclusively to oncology therapeutics, is designed to provide exactly that.

**Apply by 11th October 2026**

[Read More](#)

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## Read the latest Member news

[View the News page](#)

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### Information

Product and service information, blogs, funding rounds, reports and more from our Members and the wider life science sector

## How Life Sciences and Healthcare Marketing Teams Can Scale with External Digital Support



Many medium-to-large life science, pharmaceutical, biotech, and healthcare companies have surprisingly small marketing teams.

Sometimes, it's a streamlined marketing team of two or three people. Sometimes, it's a single marketing manager balancing strategy, content, website updates, campaigns, events, internal requests and reporting. Compact marketing teams may support substantial

organisations, complex product portfolios and ambitious commercial objectives, often across several markets.

[Read More](#)

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### Particle counters – a small change that could have a huge impact on your controlled environment efficiencies



WHILE airborne particle monitoring has long been associated with meeting specific ISO 14644-1 and GMP regulatory requirements, modern particle counting technology is increasingly helping Pharmaceutical, Life Sciences, Healthcare, Semiconductor and Advanced Manufacturing organisations optimise performance, reduce downtime and make better-informed operational decisions.

Particle counters provide real-time visibility of airborne contamination, enabling teams to identify issues before they become costly production problems.

[Read More](#)

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### Paul Irving MD to present on the importance of Electronic Production Records, including a GAMP based Data Governance and Integrity approach at COPA-DATAs Innovation event on Life Sciences Track



Paul Irving has extensive experience as a compliance and validation consultant in the Life Science industry. He specializes in information management, creation and implementation of data integrity program, as well as in the validation of computer systems. He also has experience in all aspects of quality control, including statistical process control and the

development of management information systems, gained while working at Kimberley-Clark.

At the event on the 6th October, Paul will be sharing his knowledge with a presentation detailing how Electronic Production Records (EPR), drive digital maturity within life sciences organizations

[Read More](#)

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## Secerna exhibiting at ELRIG Drug Discovery 2026 in London



Secerna will be exhibiting at ELRIG Drug Discovery 2026 (LONDON EXCEL) on 14 – 15 October 2026, where our team will be on hand to discuss how intellectual property can support successful drug discovery and commercialisation strategies.

Celebrating 20 years of ELRIG, this year's conference features key technical tracks including Translating Ideas into Therapies, Chemical Biology and Omics, and Advanced Models for Drug Discovery alongside scientific sessions with partners like SLAS, CRUK, and the Royal Society of Chemistry.

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## Symbiosis IP is now part of Gateley IP: what this means for Bionow members

# Gateley / IP

Bionow members who have worked with Symbiosis IP can continue to access the same trusted life sciences and chemistry patent attorney team, but now with the added advantages that come from being part of Gateley IP. Gateley IP brings together the specialist patent and trade mark attorney practices of Symbiosis IP, Adamson Jones and Groom Wilkes & Wright under a single brand, creating a dedicated intellectual property group with greater scale, broader ability and a stronger commercial offering for innovative businesses.

[Read More](#)

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## Turning Growth Potential into Sustainable Growth - The Next Challenge for Life Sciences



The UK life sciences sector has no shortage of innovation. Across biotech, medtech, diagnostics and digital health, businesses are developing technologies with the potential to make a real difference.

But having a strong product or technology is only one part of building a successful life sciences business. As companies move beyond early development, the challenges become increasingly commercial.

[Read More](#)

## Connecting Tumour Metabolism, Biomarker Profiling and T-Cell Engineering in Immuno-Oncology Research



Creative Biolabs has expanded its preclinical immuno-oncology capabilities across tumour metabolism analysis, biomarker profiling, and T-cell engineering. Together, these research services support complementary questions involving tumour biology, molecular heterogeneity, and engineered immune-cell function.

[Read More](#)

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## Why You Should Measure Comparability Debt Before Ever Starting A Study



This recent article by Siddharth Krishnan, Director and Principal Consultant at Cellvanta Ltd in Cell&Gene discusses the recurring challenge of demonstrating process and analytical comparability in cell and gene therapy development.

Comparability is often treated as a problem that begins when a manufacturing or analytical change occurs. The article introduces “comparability debt” to describe the technical uncertainty that can accumulate earlier, when product and process understanding and analytical capability develop at different rates.

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## Driving Growth: 11 New Spinout Companies from The University of Manchester Funding and Investment News

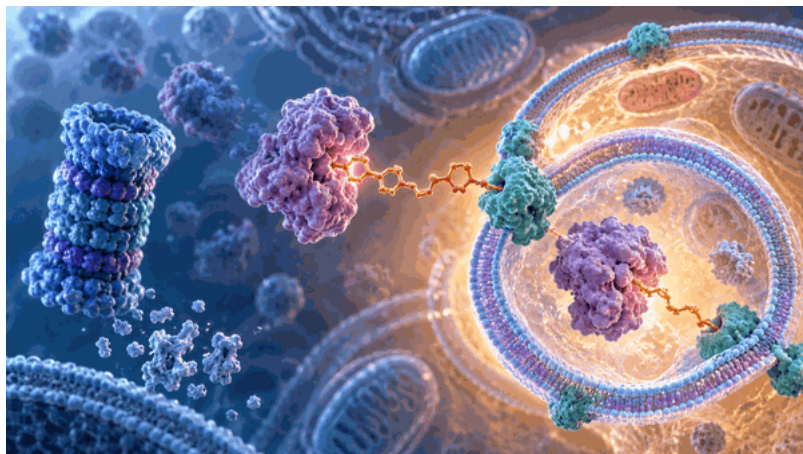


The University of Manchester Innovation Factory has delivered an incredibly strong year of results in the 25/26 financial year, launching 11 new spinout companies and securing over £56m of investment into its portfolio of 82 spinout companies, now valued at over £500m.

The results demonstrate renewed momentum in the commercialisation of research originating from The University of Manchester (UoM), as the institution puts increasing focus on innovation as part of its ambitious 2035 Strategy.

[Read More](#)

## ATTEC Technology Broadens the Targeted Protein Degradation Toolbox



Targeted protein degradation is often discussed through the lens of the ubiquitin-proteasome system. But what happens when the target is embedded in a large protein complex, forms an aggregate, or represents another cellular substrate that is not readily handled by proteasomal degradation?

[Read More](#)

## Women's Health. Why Visibility Matters More Than Ever



Women's health has often been overlooked, with too little research and too little curiosity or understanding.

Health issues that affect women are often ignored, treated as normal, or not explained clearly. Gender bias in research, data, services, and clinical care has led to gaps in evidence and treatment, causing delays in diagnosis and care.

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## Creative Biolabs Expands CAR-T mRNA Manufacturing Support Across Development Stages

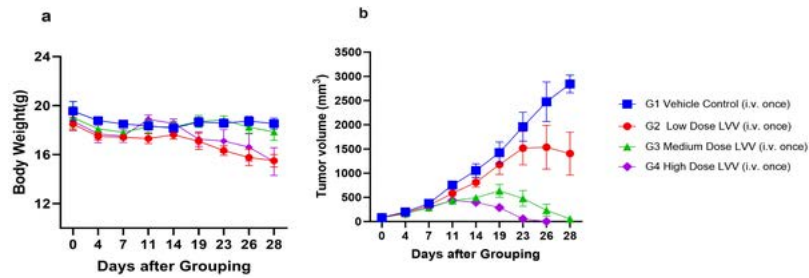


The growing interest in mRNA-based CAR-T strategies is creating new opportunities for transient, non-viral cell engineering, but it is also exposing a persistent development challenge: maintaining RNA quality and manufacturing consistency as programmes progress from early research toward more controlled production.

CAR mRNA quality and functional performance can be influenced by multiple variables, including template design, RNA integrity, capping efficiency, poly(A) tail characteristics, purification, formulation, and delivery. At the same time, transferring projects between disconnected research, process development, and manufacturing workflows can add technical handoffs, complicate comparability, and extend development timelines.

[Read More](#)

## Advancing In Vivo CAR-T: The Questions That Matter



CAR-T therapy has transformed the treatment landscape for several haematological malignancies, but its wider use remains constrained by the complexity of manufacturing cells outside the patient.

In vivo CAR-T therapies aims to change that. Rather than removing and engineering T cells ex vivo, in vivo approaches deliver CAR-encoding material directly into the body, allowing T cells to be programmed within the patient.

As these technologies move towards the clinic, they create a different set of preclinical questions. Demonstrating that a vector has been administered successfully is only the beginning. A meaningful study needs to connect delivery, CAR-T generation, cellular activity, efficacy and safety.

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## The Science of Ageing. Helping Us Live Healthier for Longer



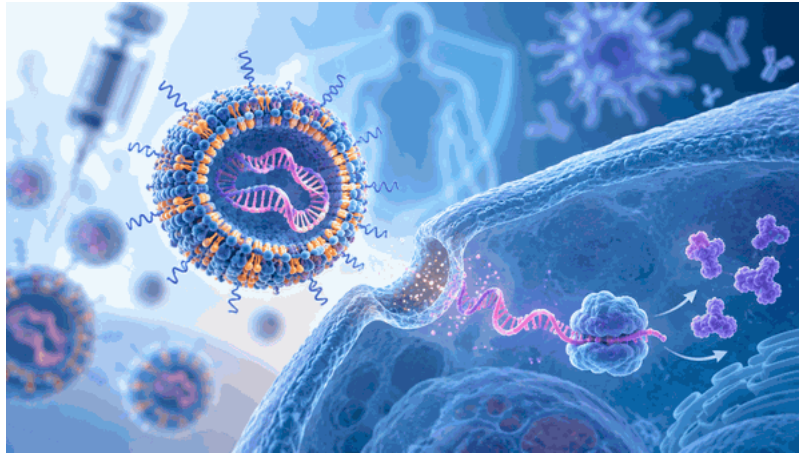
### What is ageing?

So many words and phrases come to mind. What does ageing mean to you?

Perhaps you think of the word 'longevity', or 'longevity research' which is everywhere at the moment and becoming somewhat of a buzzword and phrase.

Perhaps you think of what happens with age, from the more obvious physical changes on the outside, or perhaps you think of the less obvious and more subtle changes that cannot be seen but are happening inside our cells.

## Is the Vaccine the Problem—or Its Delivery System? Optimizing Delivery for RNA Vaccines



The assumption that a well-designed vaccine payload will automatically translate into strong biological performance is becoming increasingly difficult to defend.

For RNA vaccines in particular, successful antigen design is only part of the equation. The RNA must remain sufficiently stable, reach appropriate cells, undergo cellular uptake and endosomal escape, and release functional RNA into the cytoplasm without creating counterproductive innate immune activation. Research into lipid nanoparticles and other nucleic-acid delivery technologies has therefore shifted vaccine delivery from a downstream formulation consideration to a central development variable.

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## Pharma Services Hub launches podcast series sharing practical insight into pharmaceutical outsourcing

**Pharma Services Hub** | NEW PODCAST LAUNCH

### PHARMA SERVICES HUB ANNOUNCES NEW INDUSTRY PODCAST

**CONNECTING EXPERTS ACROSS THE PHARMACEUTICAL VALUE CHAIN**

**Real conversations. Expert insights. Industry impact.**

The Pharma Services Hub Podcast brings together leaders and innovators from across the pharmaceutical development, manufacturing and supply chain ecosystem.

- INDUSTRY LEADERS**  
Voices from across the value chain.
- EXPERT INSIGHTS**  
Cutting-edge ideas and best practice.
- REAL-WORLD CHALLENGES**  
Practical solutions to today's biggest issues.

**LAUNCHING SOON**

Pharma Services Hub (PSH) has launched a new series of video podcasts designed to share practical knowledge and insight into pharmaceutical development, outsourcing and the selection of specialist service providers.

Available through the Pharma Services Hub platform and Pharma Services Hub YouTube channel, the newly launched podcasts feature the founders of Pharma Services Hub, drawing on their industry experience to explore some of the technical and commercial questions pharmaceutical companies face when progressing development programmes and working with external partners.

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## Scotland has the science but it needs to connect the dots



As Scotland's life sciences community gathered in Glasgow for the Bionow: BioInsight 2026 Conference, there is much to celebrate. Scotland has world-class research, exceptional universities, a strong pipeline of scientific talent and a growing community of innovative businesses.

However, I believe the challenge for Scotland's innovation economy is increasingly about connection, and joining up the people, places and organisations that can help great science become successful businesses which ultimately, deliver real-world impact.

[Read More](#)

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## Big ideas that feel too bold for traditional funding? That's exactly what ARIA is looking for



The Advanced Research and Invention Agency (ARIA) are backing high-risk, high-reward research that could reshape industries and create entirely new markets.

Unlike conventional programmes, ARIA wants the speculative, the interdisciplinary, the "un-fundable" ideas that could change everything.

### Key details

Closes: 16 January 2028

Funding: Varies by programme

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### Specialist Laboratory Purchasing Scheme for Bionow Members



### The Fisher Scientific channel offers a full range of premium brands

The breadth and depth of the Fisher Scientific product range creates a virtual one-stop shop for scientists with a core list that helps to simplify your ordering whilst providing great value and long-term price stability. Browse a dynamic, fully-interactive web catalogue that provides product information and real-time stock availability.

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### Read the latest from the life science sector

[Find out more](#)



## Recruitment

Check out the latest sector job opportunities



MEMBER



### Job Posting Free of Charge to Bionow Members

Members of Bionow can post their current job vacancies directly to the Bionow website free of charge.

[bionow.co.uk/jobs](https://bionow.co.uk/jobs)

For further information [contact the Bionow team](#).

### Bionow Preferred Recruitment Provider

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**Contact the SRG team:**

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## Events

Upcoming Member and sector events



## Innovation in MedTech and Diagnostics Conference

**6th - 7th October  
Prince Philip House, London**

Hosted by CPI, the two-day conference will bring together industry, academia, healthcare, government and investors to explore the technologies and partnerships shaping the future of medical diagnostics and devices.

The programme will cover topics including decentralised diagnostics, chronic and continuous care, FemTech, evidence generation, regulation, manufacturing, NHS adoption, AI and spatial biology.

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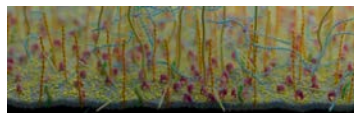
### The University of Edinburgh - Discover Careers

**6th - 8th October  
McEwan Hall, The University of Edinburgh**

Discover Careers is the biggest and highest profile event of the year where you will meet talented students from all disciplines and year groups. Use it to raise awareness and promote any career related opportunities, from insights to part time work, internships and graduate roles or placements. We tend to welcome over 1000 students each day.

Students from all subject areas and all year groups will be invited to attend but we would expect most interest to come from Undergraduates in years 2 - 4/5 and postgraduate taught students.

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### EngBio@Leeds Industry Showcase

**7th October  
The Royal Society, London**

**Are you an industry professional who is curious about how engineering biology could support R&I in your organisation?**

Join the EngBio@Leeds network for a free industry showcase of cutting-edge research, specialist infrastructure and collaboration opportunities at the University of Leeds.

The event will bring together industry professionals, Leeds academics and facilities teams to explore how engineering biology approaches can help address the most pressing industrial challenges. You'll hear from researchers working at the forefront of the field, learn about key capabilities available at Leeds, and take part in focused discussions designed to spark new connections and future collaborations.

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## Apconix Drug Safety Forum 2026

**13th October**

**Wellcome Collection, London**

We are delighted to celebrate the fourth year of our Drug Safety Forum, providing a platform for nonclinical and clinical communities to engage with current safety science and offer a future perspective. We focus on new theoretical and experimental approaches to translational safety science.

The central themes of the forum are two-fold; what more can we achieve and what new models can we access that helps us to better understand what will happen in the clinic.

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## Unlocking barriers to life sciences innovation through KTP

**14th October**

**Online**

**Explore how KTPs can unlock life sciences innovation, scale R&D and boost competitiveness through collaboration with the University of Leeds**

The University of Leeds is pleased to invite you to join us for an informative session on how the Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP) can be a key innovation and business growth agent for the Life Sciences sector. The event is targeted at business leaders and technical experts in the life sciences sector to explore the opportunities for unlocking barriers to scaling and competitiveness through leveraging leading academic research expertise and world class facilities at the University of Leeds.

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## University of Leeds STEM Fair

**20th October**

**The Edge Sports Centre, University of Leeds**

Our flagship STEM Careers Fair brings together employers from across science, technology, engineering and mathematics sectors, representing organisations of all sizes actively seeking to engage with future STEM talent. Employers will have the opportunity to raise their profile, showcase their organisation, and promote graduate roles, internships, placements and other early-career opportunities through direct engagement with students and graduates.

Welcoming up to 3,000 students from a wide range of STEM disciplines and year groups, the event is ideal for building talent pipelines and connecting with the next generation of STEM professionals.

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### **One Project, Multiple CROs: Managing Different Collaboration Models with iTraX™ Chemistry**

**21st October  
Online**

Modern drug discovery increasingly depends on external partners, but multi-party collaboration can quickly create data silos, tracking gaps, and IP risks. Whether a partner is handling synthesis or co-designing hypotheses, teams need precise control over access without slowing project momentum.

Join this interactive webinar to see how iTraX Chemistry helps project leaders and external collaborators work securely within a single discovery project. Through a live, side-by-side demonstration, we'll show how to manage multiple collaborators, tailor access by workflow, and maintain real-time visibility across the project.

[READ MORE](#)



### **Lancaster University Science, Health & Technology Careers Fair**

**28th October  
LICA Building, Lancaster University**

**We are delighted to invite you to Lancaster University's Science, Health & Technology Careers Fair!**

We will be inviting a wide range of companies to attend, who will be offering internships, placement years or graduate roles to our students.

The fair will be open to all students, from all year groups, across the university with a focus on students from the Faculty of Science and Technology and the Faculty of Health and Medicine.

**The fair is free to attend.**

[READ MORE](#)



## HealthTech Evidence Generation Workshop - Part 1

**2nd November**

**Core Technology Facility, Manchester**

### Building your evidence case

How the people who decide your technology's future actually think.

- Unmet need through four lenses: what patients, clinicians, NHS payers and investors each need to see, and how to triangulate across them quickly and cheaply
- Three questions before you write a grant: what is already known, what study you need at your stage, and how to show the NHS it is worth paying for
- Real case studies: anonymised UK HealthTech companies. Assess them with the day's frameworks, predict who succeeded, then find out what really happened and why

You will leave Day 1 able to state the case for your technology in the language of each audience that matters.

[READ MORE](#)



## Cancer Research Horizons Innovation Summit 2026

**3rd November**

**Science and Industry Museum, Manchester**

Join us for a day of inspiring talks and thought-provoking discussions. You'll hear from founders who have successfully translated their research and gain practical insights into commercialisation.

You'll also connect with entrepreneurs, researchers, innovators, investors and experts in the field of oncology who can help you shape your innovations and understand the routes you can take to translate your cancer research into practice.

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**BIO-Europe**



**9th - 11th November**  
**Koelnmesse, Cologne, Germany**

In 2026, BIO-Europe will continue to set the standard for excellence in partnering while broadening its unwavering commitment to global collaboration. At the heart of this evolution, the event will expand beyond partnering to include:

- A comprehensive programme - expanding beyond partnering and investment to encompass regulatory developments, clinical affairs and manufacturing strategy.
- Convening strategic conversations - for the biopharma C-suite and leadership teams.
- Creating the platform - where global collaboration can thrive, partnerships are formed and innovation can be championed, for all.
- New access options - to support a variety of engagement levels.

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**TBI-Reporter/NIHR HRC in Brain Injury:  
 Industry Workshop on De-risking Drug and  
 Technology Innovation in Traumatic Brain  
 Injury**

**13th November**  
**Wellcome Collection, London**

TBI-REPORTER and the NIHR HRC have had success setting up important studies – both publicly and industry funded – exploring new diagnostics, Phase 1b/2a trials, and novel assistive technology. Building on these achievements, we are holding a joint workshop for industry partners in the pharmaceutical, diagnostic, imaging, and technology sectors.

This workshop is intended to establish an ongoing community bringing together academia, industry, clinicians, funders and people with lived experience to accelerate innovation in traumatic brain injury.

[READ MORE](#)



**Keele University's School of Life Sciences  
 Careers, Placements and Postgraduate Fair  
 2026**

**17th November**  
**Chancellors Building, Keele University**

This will be our second School of Life Sciences Careers, Placements and Postgraduate Fair, and we're building on the success of our first to create an even more dynamic,

engaging, and impactful event. It's a fantastic opportunity to connect directly with Keele students from a wide range of cutting-edge and highly employable disciplines.

**The fair is free to attend.**

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**Newcastle**  
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**Bionow supports business growth, competitiveness and innovation within the life science sector across the North. Our membership service adds value and cost-efficiency to scientific, clinical and business operations within early stage and growth-oriented firms.**

**Contact us:**

[www.bionow.co.uk](http://www.bionow.co.uk) | [info@bionow.co.uk](mailto:info@bionow.co.uk)



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