

bionow[®]
BioCap2026

**Pitching
Competition
Company Profiles**

Wednesday 30th September 2026

Pitching Competition Agenda

Time	Session	Speakers
13.35 - 13.40	Welcome	Geoff Davison, Bionow
13.40 - 15.00	Company 8-minute pitches: AlgiSys Antigonie Biosciences Bioarchitech Cerebrovia Therapeutics Chronotaxia Fibraxis Haptiv8	Patricia Barclay Katherine Bridge Kevin Maskall Paul Chazot Phil Clemson Rebecca Bignold Nicki Allen
15.00 - 15.20	Break	
15.20 - 16.20	Company 8-minute pitches: ImmunoKey Innovarus Inoviv mycoBiologics OncoDrug Osbot ValiRx Animal Health	John Bridgeman Amin Fathi Marie Labus Fiona Rudkin Richard Marais Wei Yao Melissa Barr
16.20	Thank you and close	

AlgiSys



Date company established: 2009
Number of employees: 10
Amount of funding sought: ~£5M

How the funding will be used:

Completion of scale up and initial commercial production in UK.

Details of previous funding awards:

~£7 Million Series A

Company profile:

AlgiSys uses biotechnology to produce omega-3 EPA and plant protein ingredients from microalgae, replacing fish as the source of these important nutrients. AlgiSys is a B2B ingredient company that uses patented and proprietary fermentation-based technology to make products for the food, beverage, supplement, aquaculture, pet food, animal feed, cosmetics, and pharmaceutical markets – a total addressable global market of £21+ Billion.

Its all-natural, non-GMO, vegan products can alleviate over-fishing and increase food security. AlgiSys provides sustainable, locally-made alternatives to fish-based products using third-party validated, scalable technology.

AlgiSys is a pre-revenue startup seeking to raise ~£5 Million in Series B capital to complete its commercialisation and begin selling products in approximately 12 months.

Website: <https://www.algisys.com/>

Presenter: Patricia Barclay

Antigonie Biosciences



Date company established: November 2025

Number of employees: 0 paid, 8 working pro-bono/share options

Amount of funding sought: Tranche 1 (Y1-2) £2.6M, Tranche 2 (Y3) £5.4M [IND-enabling studies including NHP.]

How the funding will be used:

Non-GLP dose, safety and toxicity studies at CRO on prototype W0301. (quotes from LabCorp, Medicines Discovery Catapult, WuXi) (months 9-12). Employing research associate to conduct in vitro and in vivo R&D on prototype RNA medicine for myeloproliferative neoplasms (months 1-9). Nominate lead candidate.

Details of previous funding awards:

- Cancer Tech Accelerator – finalists prize (£50k) from Blood Cancer UK - August 2026
- Non-dilutive grant funding via academic grants to University of York total £592,500
- Kay Kendall Leukemia Fund (2021-2024): £525,000, of which £150,000 was dedicated to this work. PI: K. Bridge.
- UKRI MRC IAA : £40,000 (2022-2023); £40,000 (2023-2024). PI: K. Bridge.
- Blood Cancer UK: £75,000 (2025). PI: C. Hawley.
- Lady Tata International Award: £30,000 (2025). PI: C. Hawley.
- University of York Philanthropy: £7,500. PI: K. Bridge
- UKRI MRC Project grant (2025-2028). PI: K. Bridge: £830,000, of which £250,000 is dedicated to this work.
- K. Bridge has raised >£2m of academic grant funding since founding her academic laboratory in 2021.

Company profile:

Technology: Antigonie Biosciences is developing RNA medicines for blood cancer. Delivered directly to the bone marrow utilising its proprietary lipid nanoparticle (LNP) platform, Asteria™. Its prototype asset, W-0301, is a mutation-specific RNA medicine for myeloproliferative neoplasms, an incurable blood cancer, and demonstrate proof of concept in targeting malignant clones in the bone marrow.

Current R&D Focus (Years 1–2): Pre-clinical in vivo Minimum Efficacious Dose (MED) and Maximum Tolerated Dose (MTD) validation studies to characterises the therapeutic window and safety profile of W-0301, alongside identifying the lead candidate for IND-enabling studies (Year 3).

Business Model: A classic drug-development model focussed on advancing proprietary pipelines through preclinical and early clinical validation (Phase I/Ib) to reach key value-inflection points before executing high-value strategic out-licensing deals or acquisition with global biopharma partners.

Target Market: Haematological disorders and oncology, initially targeting Myeloproliferative Neoplasms (MPNs)- including Polycythemia Vera and Essential Thrombocythemia-where current therapies (e.g., JAK inhibitors) provide symptom management but fail to modify the underlying disease.

Time to Market: On a 6-year roadmap to market readiness, with IND filing targeted within 36 months followed by Phase I/II clinical trials (Years 4–6).

Website: <https://www.antigonie.bio/>

Presenter: Katherine Bridge

Bioarchitech



Date company established: 2015, however pivot to current neoadjuvant immunotherapy projects to be presented in 2022

Number of employees: 4

Amount of funding sought: Pre-Series A \$15M (USD), 2026-2027; Series A \$27M (USD), 2028-2032

How the funding will be used:

BA-V151 asset development:

Pre-Series A 2026-2027

- BA-V151 GMP validation and manufacture at CDMO
- Toxicology/tolerability GLP preclinical studies
- CTA application and then IND application for approval of a Phase 1b/2 clinical study

Series A 2028-2032

- Phase 1b/2 clinical study of BA-V151 with cetuximab in neoadjuvant metastatic colorectal cancer with resection or ablation of metastases, efficacy 1-year Relapse free survival.
- Business development activities to obtain Pharma partners and other antibody/ADC development companies to move their assets into the neoadjuvant setting.

BA-R166 asset development:

Pre-Series A 2026-2027

- BA-R166 manufacture at CDMO
- Toxicology/tolerability/starting dose in non-human primate preclinical studies
- New Biological Entity application in China for approval of an Investigator Initiated Trial (IIT) in China for tolerability data.

Series A 2028-2032

- First-in-human IIT in late-stage oesophageal cancer to establish a recommended dose for Phase II efficacy studies.
- IND application for Phase I/II neoadjuvant study in oesophageal cancer, measuring 2-year relapse free survival.
- Pharma partnerships for or VC funding for Phase 2 studies in neoadjuvant oesophageal and lung cancer using dose established in IIT study.

Business development activities to obtain Pharma partners, also additional investors and a roadmap to IPO for Phase III registration studies.

Details of previous funding awards:

- Private Equity \$4M
- Biomedical catalyst 2015-2017 £0.2M

Bioarchitech continued

Company profile:

Current immunotherapies cannot be easily adapted to the neoadjuvant (pre-surgery) setting, despite this being the best opportunity to prevent metastatic relapse after curative surgery.

Neoadjuvant immunotherapies must be:

- Fast, to not delay surgery
- Cheap, because treat all as who will relapse is unknown
- Safe, as combine with existing therapies and surgery

Bioarchitech has developed the first immunotherapies specialised for the neoadjuvant setting using the burst kinetics of viral genes. We have two patented assets with in vitro and in vivo proof-of-concept data.

BA-R166, RNA-LNP that turns a tumour into its own vaccine with an off-the-shelf-product. A new RNA modality and platform technology. First in human planned in oesophageal, but widely applicable including in lung cancer.

BA-V151, engineered virus that in preclinical models dramatically enhances antibody and antibody-drug conjugate efficacy with just two doses preventing metastatic spread. Phase Ib/II in metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC) but broad applicability with antibody cotherapies.

Seeking Pre-series A for IND/CTA enabling studies (2026-2027), then Series A (2028-2032) for first-in-human studies, efficacy based on relapse free survival.

Business model includes partnerships with Pharma and other antibody therapy companies. Potential future IPO. Market \$4B/year in mCRC, \$1B/year in oesophageal. Both assets have application to other cancers.

Website: <https://www.bioarchitech.com/>

Presenter: Kevin Maskall

Cerebrovia Therapeutics

Date company established: February 2025

Number of employees: 2 founders; currently no salaried employees

Amount of funding sought: £400,000



How the funding will be used:

The funding would be used to complete the extended preclinical programme for CV-101. The current in-human clinical case series provides an encouraging efficacy signal, but further laboratory work is needed to characterise the pharmacology of the combination, confirm brain exposure at relevant doses and establish the contribution of each component. The resulting evidence will strengthen the mechanistic and dose rationale for CV-101 and support future regulatory, IP and partnering discussions. The programme has been reviewed by Cerebrovia Scientific Advisor Professor Michael Spedding, former Secretary-General of IUPHAR and former Scientific Director at Servier, who brings extensive experience in CNS pharmacology and drug development ([Who We Are – Spedding Research Solutions SAS](#)).

Study	Budget	Purpose
1. Cell-based combination pharmacology	£30,000	Repurposed drug A and repurposed drug B tested alone and in combination across calcium-handling, cell-viability and injury-response endpoints.
2. Human cortical organoid injury model	£70,000	iPSC-derived cortical organoid model to assess neuronal survival, synaptic, inflammatory and calcium-related responses following controlled injury.
3. Neurovascular unit/blood-brain barrier model	£60,000	Human barrier model assessing permeability, barrier integrity and neurovascular endpoints, including the contribution of drug B.
4. Dose-ranging and CNS exposure	£90,000	In-vivo pharmacokinetic study measuring plasma and brain exposure to both agents, alone and together, across a relevant dose range.
5. Additional pharmacology workstream	£80,000	Targeted work arising from an observation in the clinical case series, with potential relevance to dose optimisation and future IP.
6. In vivo mTBI efficacy study	£70,000	Rodent mTBI model comparing vehicle, each component alone and the combination using behavioural, histological and vascular endpoints.
Total	£400,000	Extended preclinical programme (Studies 1-6).

Details of previous funding awards:

n/a

Company profile:

Cerebrovia Therapeutics Ltd is a UK biotech developing CV-101 (Cerevon), a first-in-class treatment for persistent post-concussion syndrome (PCS), a major unmet clinical need with no specifically approved pharmacological therapy.

CV-101 combines two established medicines with complementary mechanisms in a proprietary treatment strategy. The programme is supported by UK and international patent filings, encouraging in-human clinical case evidence, and an NHS ethics-approved Phase IIb clinical trial protocol.

Cerebrovia Therapeutics continued

The current BioCap funding application is focused on a £400,000 preclinical programme designed to strengthen the mechanistic, pharmacokinetic and efficacy evidence for CV-101. Studies will assess combination pharmacology, CNS exposure, blood-brain barrier effects, dose rationale and in vivo efficacy using cell-based systems, human cortical organoids, neurovascular models and mild-TBI models. First read-outs are expected within 3–6 months, with the programme completing at approximately 15 months.

The initial target market is persistent PCS, affecting millions of patients globally each year. Cerebrovia's business model is to build value through proprietary IP, preclinical and clinical validation, followed by pharmaceutical licensing, co-development or acquisition. Funding for the Phase IIb clinical trial is being raised separately from private investors.

Website: <https://www.cerebrovia.com/>

Presenter: Paul Chazot

Chronotaxia

Date company established: November 2025

Number of employees: 1

Amount of funding sought: £1M



How the funding will be used:

Chronotaxia is seeking £1 million in seed funding to advance Melatest from its current prototype to a clinically deployable, design-frozen medical device and commence its first-in-human clinical investigation. The funding will enable the company to recruit an in-house electronics engineer and software engineer, followed by an experienced CTO, to miniaturise and improve the device, develop a customer-facing smartphone app, and build valuable proprietary engineering know-how. Specialist subcontractors will develop the adhesive consumable patch and production-ready electronics housing, while a formative usability study carried out at MD-TEC will identify and address human-factors requirements before the design is frozen.

The investment will also establish the clinical and regulatory foundations required for subsequent approval. This includes implementing the quality and risk-management systems needed for ISO 13485 compliance, preparing regulatory and ethics submissions, recruiting clinical project-management capacity, and initiating a planned 50-patient clinical pilot at the St Andrew's Centre at Broomfield Hospital. The pilot will assess device safety, usability and operation in a clinical environment, generating an ISO 14155-aligned clinical investigation report and supporting technical documentation. The funding also provides the operational infrastructure and runway needed to scale the team and prepare for a subsequent £1.5 million round, which will finance the larger clinical validation study and progression towards regulatory approval.

Details of previous funding awards:

- Innovate UK ICURe, November 2024 – July 2025, £50k
- Lancaster University startup grant, November 2025, £5k
- EPSRC IAA project, January 2026 – July 2026, £15k
- Innovate UK Venture Builder, October 2026 – June 2027, £150k

Company profile:

Chronotaxia has developed Melatest, a non-invasive medical device that provides rapid diagnosis of melanoma. Unlike current visual assessments and image-based AI systems, Melatest combines laser Doppler flowmetry with proprietary signal processing and machine learning algorithms to analyse the microvascular blood-flow dynamics associated with malignant skin lesions. The test is designed to provide accurate and objective results within 30 minutes and requires no specialist training.

The company will operate a device-and-consumables business model, generating revenue through sales of the reusable electronic device and recurring sales of single-use adhesive patches. The initial beachhead market comprises private dermatology clinics, which includes both independent clinics and those providing contracted public community diagnostic services. Following post-market clinical evidence and regulatory expansion, the company will target private hospitals, NHS services, primary care and community healthcare settings across the UK, Europe, Australia and the United States.

Chronotaxia is raising £1 million to complete product redesign, usability testing and design freeze, and to carry out a 50-patient clinical pilot. UK regulatory approval and initial commercial launch are targeted for 2030, followed by European and Australian market entry and subsequent expansion into the US and community-based care.

Website: <https://chronotaxia.com/>

Presenter: Phil Clemson

Fibraxis



Date company established: June 2024

Number of employees: 2

Amount of funding sought: We are currently seeking a seed raise of £3M

How the funding will be used:

The £3M seed round will fund the majority of our IND-enabling programme across five workstreams. First, full physicochemical and pharmacological characterisation of our lead compound. Second, manufacture and characterisation of the compound as a dry powder inhaler formulation in partnership with Aston Particle Technologies, with formulation data filed for patent protection. Third, in vitro and in vivo pharmacology studies to confirm mechanism of action and establish PK/PD parameters. Fourth, safety and toxicology testing to complete our MHRA Clinical Trial Authorisation package, short of large animal studies. Fifth, in-house mouse efficacy studies to confirm therapeutic activity and inform clinical trial design.

The round will also fund key hires: dedicated in vitro and in vivo research scientists and a clinical lead to oversee transition to first-in-human trials. All work is underpinned by a fully drafted and costed development and manufacturing plan, built with ex-GSK respiratory development experts from our Scientific Advisory Board.

Details of previous funding awards:

The foundational research underpinning Fibraxis was supported by academic grant funding from the Medical Research Council and the BBSRC Impact Acceleration Account. Since incorporation, Fibraxis has received non-dilutive funding through SPARK The Midlands and closed a pre-seed angel investment round of £235,000.

Company profile:

Fibraxis is a female-founded UK biotech spinout developing a first-in-class inhaled small molecule to halt and reverse airway remodelling in asthma, a mechanistically unprecedented approach targeting the CXCL12/CXCR4 signalling axis to block pericyte migration and prevent irreversible structural damage to the airways.

Technology

Our lead compound is patent-protected, peer-reviewed, and supported by a robust preclinical efficacy dataset demonstrating proof-of-concept across multiple experimental models. Delivered as a dry powder inhaler in partnership with Aston Particle Technologies using iDPC technology, it is progressing through a fully costed development and manufacturing plan built with ex-GSK respiratory experts, mapping the programme to first-in-human trials.

Business Model

Fibraxis operates a biotech licensing model, building asset value through to MHRA Clinical Trial Authorisation and Phase I, targeting strategic acquisition or licensing by a major pharmaceutical partner. Projected exit: \$1.5B+.

Target Market

Our primary positioning is as a preventative daily add-on for the 260 million mild-to-moderate asthmatics on ICS-containing therapy globally, with a beachhead in the 26 million steroid non-adherent patients currently without any inhaled treatment option.

Fibraxis continued

Time to Market

Currently raising a £3M seed round to complete IND-enabling studies ahead of MHRA Clinical Trial Authorisation. Projected acquisition exit by 2031.

Website: <https://fibraxis.com/>

Presenter: Rebecca Bignold

Haptiv8



Date company established: November 2023

Number of employees: 4

Amount of funding sought: £800,000 in 3 tranches (02/27 £300k, 08/27 £300k, 02/28 £200k)

How the funding will be used:

- Tranche 1 : Complete Usability study, develop in-house manufacturing capabilities, grow team, first NHS sale, scale to selling to 20 private clinics.
- Tranche 2: US launch, launch of second product (class 2A)
- Tranche 3: EU launch, launch of product pipeline

Details of previous funding awards:

- NIHR i4i FAST Grant £99k
- Lyva Labs £125k
- Deep Bridge Captial £250k SEIS
- Royal Academy of Engineering £20k

Company profile:

Haptiv8 has developed smart insoles for children who tip toe walk to retrain a natural heel strike through sensors and gamified haptic feedback, replacing the current pathway of splints, special footwear and surgery.

9 million children worldwide tip toe walk - 105,000 in the UK alone – within a £2.43 billion global market, tip toe walking affects 2% of all children and 45% of those with autism. Autism diagnoses have increased by 241% since 2000 reinforcing demand.

NHS Long term plan and the US national strategy are both funding intervention.

Haptiv8 has plugged into a sales channel by partnering with Steeper x Eqwal, one of the UK's largest orthotic and prosthetic providers, giving access to 35 NHS contracts, 200 patient care centres and US distribution networks, alongside in-house manufacturing.

The first product is a Class 1 CA marked medical device, cleared to launch in the UK by the end of January/ February 2027, the US one month later, and Europe a month after that, followed by a product portfolio.

Haptiv8 was founded out of clinical need, by Nicki Allen, a former paediatric physiotherapist of 9 years and an NHS clinical entrepreneur. The team consists of regulatory advisor, NED, clinical lead in podiatry and gait/ biomechanics specialist, CFO, CTO.

Website: <https://haptiv8.com/>

Presenter: Nicki Allen

ImmunoKey



Date company established: February 2024

Number of employees: 6

Amount of funding sought: £800K to complete the second close of ImmunoKey's £1.6M seed round.

An £800K first close has already completed with £600K from PXN ventures and £200K from founders.

How the funding will be used:

The funding will complete the pre-Series A development programme for ImmunoKey's lead ovarian cancer therapy, IMK001.

It will support comparative in-vivo studies to show how effectively IMK001 controls tumours, together with dose, safety and specificity studies designed to establish an initial therapeutic window.

The round will also fund early manufacturing and analytical development, including research-grade lentiviral vector work and definition of a practical manufacturing route. A further workstream will assess whether the CARKey technology can ultimately be delivered directly inside the body, offering a potential future route to simpler treatment, lower manufacturing costs and broader patient access.

Funding will also maintain the core team and support intellectual property, regulatory planning and operational infrastructure.

The intended outcome is a more fully de-risked programme with evidence of tumour activity, preliminary safety, a defined manufacturing pathway and initial in-vivo delivery feasibility. These milestones are designed to prepare ImmunoKey for institutional Series A financing and subsequent clinical development.

Details of previous funding awards:

Grants

- 2025 - ScaleReady - \$225,000
- 2025 - Alderley Park Accelerator £10,000
- 2025 - IUK Business growth accelerator £15,000
- 2026 - IUK growth catalyst industry partnership - £425,000
- 2026 - IUK Biomedical catalyst - £100,00 (not started)

Company profile:

ImmunoKey is a UK biotechnology company developing next-generation CAR-T cell therapies for solid cancers, starting with relapsed ovarian cancer.

CAR-T therapy reprogrammes a patient's own immune cells to recognise and destroy cancer. Although this approach has transformed the treatment of some blood cancers, it has been less successful in solid tumours because cancer cells vary within each tumour and many cancer markers are also present on healthy tissues.

ImmunoKey's proprietary CARKey platform is designed to address this challenge. It enables engineered immune cells to recognise several tumour markers, while requiring a second confirming signal before becoming fully active. This "two-factor authentication" approach aims to improve tumour coverage while preserving safety.

ImmunoKey continued

The lead programme, IMK001, has demonstrated broader activity than conventional CAR-T comparators across patient-derived ovarian tumour samples. The company has filed three patent applications, received early MHRA scientific advice and is advancing in-vivo efficacy, safety, manufacturing and regulatory development.

ImmunoKey's business model is to validate IMK001 clinically and create value through pharmaceutical licensing, co-development or acquisition, while preserving future opportunities for scalable in-vivo delivery. Clinical-readiness activities are planned through 2027.

Website: <https://www.immunokey.co.uk/>

Presenter: John Bridgeman

Innovarus

Date company established: August 2024

Number of employees: 7

Amount of funding sought: £3.5M



How the funding will be used:

The £3,500,000 investment will fund a focused R&D and regulatory programme that advances our generic product towards marketing authorisation and strengthens the internal capabilities required for commercialisation:

1. Product development and registration: Conduct the MHRA confirmed bioequivalence study and complete the CMC, quality and regulatory work required to prepare and submit the eCTD dossier to the MHRA and relevant European authorities.
2. Team expansion: Increase headcount from seven to eleven by recruiting four specialists, primarily in R&D and Regulatory Affairs, to accelerate development, reduce execution risk and shorten time to market.

Details of previous funding awards:

- Raised £720,000 in private equity funding, with a further £2.3 million planned over the next 24 months
- Successfully secured funding through the IBIC and IAA competitions, including £95,000 from Innovate UK in collaboration with The University of Manchester.
- Won an additional £19,000 Innovate UK grant through a competitive funding programme.
- Received £36,705 in grant funding from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA).
- Secured £42,000 in HMRC ERIS credits.

Company profile:

Innovarus is a UK pharmaceutical company developing long-acting injectables that make treatment safer, more effective, affordable and patient friendly. Our novel formulations and delivery systems extend drug release duration by more than three times, maintaining consistent therapeutic levels and minimising early burst release. By reducing side effects, injections and clinic visits, our products aim to improve adherence and lower the overall cost of care.

Innovarus uses a product development and portfolio business model, selecting established active ingredients where longer acting formulations can deliver meaningful clinical and economic advantages. IP is developed in-house around individual products, delivery solutions and medical devices, supporting direct commercialisation in the UK and EU and pharmaceutical partnerships and licensing in the US.

Our target market includes diseases requiring repeated treatment, initially across endocrinology, oncology, and gynaecology. Current programmes are in preclinical and development stages, with the leadcandidate progressing towards first in human studies. Using established medicines and focused regulatory pathways is intended to reduce development risk and shorten time to market. Subject to successful development and regulatory approval, Innovarus expects its three products to enter the UK and EU markets progressively from 2028 to 2031, with US market entry targeted between 2029 and 2033.

Website: <https://innovarus.co.uk/>

Presenter: Amin Fathi

Inoviv



Date company established: December 2017

Number of employees: 14

Amount of funding sought: £3M

How the funding will be used:

The £3M raise will be used primarily to support sales and marketing activities to drive revenue generation through acquisition of new customers, launch of new services and products, and expansion of our laboratory operations at Alderley Park.

Details of previous funding awards:

The company has raised circa £10M in equity and debt financing since 2018.

Company profile:

Inoviv is a female-led biotechnology company with its lab operations based in the Northwest UK at Alderley Park. We provide a quantitative proteomics service to pharmaceutical and biotechnology organisations through the supply of high-resolution, clinically relevant protein data, accelerating drug development and supporting the delivery of new treatments to patients.

Inoviv offers a state-of-the-art proprietary suite of IP-protected, pre-validated and customised proteomic assays capable of tracking more than 50 proteins simultaneously and generating highly precise data on proteins present at the lowest concentrations. This includes translating discovery-phase findings into targeted, quantitative assays ready for clinical application. Our customers range from SMEs through to large Pharma, in all disease areas, and all drug modalities.

Over the last three years we have generated >£4m in revenue and are forecasting revenue of ~£2.2m for 2026. Following a change in leadership in early 2026, we are now raising a series A round, targeting a £3m raise to drive growth of revenue and value over the next three years and have the support of our main investor Foresight Group.

Website: <https://inoviv.com/>

Presenter: Marie Labus

mycoBiologics



Date company established: Incorporated February 2024; spun out from University of Aberdeen February 2026

Number of employees: 3

Amount of funding sought: £1.2M seed investment

How the funding will be used:

The £1.2 million seed round will advance mB119 to the end of preclinical proof of concept and prepare the programme for IND-enabling development.

Funding will support:

- Early manufacturability and CMC studies
- Pharmacokinetic and dose-ranging studies
- Design and preparation of the IND-enabling programme
- Regulatory input and scientific advice
- Clinical synopsis development with clinical and business development advisors
- Recruitment of a Chair, CMC lead, Chief Scientific Officer and Financial Controller
- Engagement with prospective pharmaceutical partners and investors

The programme will confirm mB119's readiness for formal safety and toxicology studies and full process development. These milestones will support a subsequent Series A raise to complete IND-enabling studies and progress the programme towards clinical development.

Details of previous funding awards:

mycoBiologics has secured £400,000 in grant and loan funding:

- Scottish Enterprise SMART: SCOTLAND – £75,000 grant, awarded September 2026; project ongoing
- Innovate UK Biomedical Catalyst – £100,000 grant, awarded September 2026; project ongoing
- Innovate UK – £18,000 grant, awarded March 2026, for an independent clinical and commercial assessment
- Scottish EDGE – £85,000 grant and loan package, awarded January 2026; project ongoing
- Venture builder Incubator - £8,500 grant, March – July 2026.
- FAILSAFE/GAMRIF – £85,000 grant, September 2025–August 2026
- Opportunity North East – £24,000 grant, awarded 2024, for market research and commercial development
- Innovate UK – £15,000 grant, awarded 2024, for early market research

The underlying research programme also secured more than £1.1 million through the University of Aberdeen, including funding from Scottish Enterprise and Wellcome.

mycoBiologics was selected and is part of Scottish Enterprise's High Growth Ventures programme, recognising its growth potential and providing ongoing strategic support.

Company profile:

mycoBiologics is a UK biotechnology company developing antibody therapies for life-threatening fungal infections. Its lead programme, mB119, is a fully human monoclonal antibody for invasive Candida infections, which predominantly affect vulnerable hospital patients, including people receiving cancer treatment, transplant recipients and intensive-care patients.

mB119 is derived from natural protective human immunity and is designed to promote immune-mediated fungal clearance and disrupt biofilms. Preclinical studies have demonstrated in vivo efficacy and activity both alone and alongside existing antifungals. Its differentiated profile offers the potential for reduced resistance risk, fewer drug-drug interactions and less frequent dosing than current treatments.

mycoBiologics continued

The initial target market is treatment of invasive candidiasis, with longerterm expansion into prevention for high-risk patients. mycoBiologics will pursue a partner-led business model, licensing or co-developing mB119 with a global anti-infective or specialty-pharma company at a key preclinical or early clinical value inflection.

The company is targeting a partner-ready preclinical asset within 18 months, IND/CTA approval in 2029 and Phase 1b efficacy data by 2032, subject to successful development and regulatory review.

Website: <https://mycobiologics.com/>

Presenter: Fiona Rudkin

OncoDrug



Date company established: August 2021

Number of employees: 7

Amount of funding sought: £2.5M for LOX; £0.25M for ALDH1A3; £3.5M for VI; £1M for PKN2.

How the funding will be used:

- £2.5M for LOXi will take us to start of Phase I clinical studies
- £0.25M for ALDH will allow preclinical candidate nomination
- £3.5M for VI will take us to start of Phase I clinical studies
- £1M for PKN2 will allow preclinical candidate nomination

Details of previous funding awards:

~£10.5M for an asset that was spun out to a separate company; £1.1M as equity investment.

Company profile:

Oncodrug is a UK-based multi-disciplinary drug discovery biotech company targeting fibrosis, oncology and metabolic diseases of high unmet need, with chemistry and biology laboratories near Liverpool, UK. Preclinical R&D focuses on underexplored targets of high medical importance, from target validation to pre-IND candidate nomination.

Oncodrug seeks partnerships, licencing/acquisition deals with VC/pharma to progress its exciting drug discovery assets, with an approximate time-to-market of 8-10 years.

Our best-in-class small molecule inhibitors are orally available and have excellent biochemical potency, selectivity, cellular pharmacology and pharmacokinetic profiles:

- Lysyl Oxidase (LOX) inhibitors target collagen crosslinking, as exciting new anti-fibrotics.
- Aldehyde Dehydrogenase 1A3 (ALDH1A3) inhibitors attenuate the retinoic acid receptor pathway to restore pancreatic β -cell function in type II diabetes
- Inhibitors of Protein Kinase N2 (PKN2) overcome RAS and EGFR inhibitor resistance.

Our viral immunotherapy (VI) targets solid cancers with a unique combination of mechanisms of action.

Chemical matter covering multiple different series derisks the projects and is well-protected by Oncodrug's patent portfolio.

Our projects strategically focus on therapeutic areas of high unmet needs:

- Drug resistance (LOX, ALDH1A3 and PKN2)
- Fibrotic mechanisms (LOX and PKN2)
- Immune response enhancement (VI and ALDH1A3)
- Cardio-metabolic diseases (ALDH1A3, PKN2, LOX)

Website: <https://www.oncodrug.co.uk/>

Presenter: Richard Marais

Osbot

Date company established: March 2020

Number of employees: n/a

Amount of funding sought: £1.5M Engineering Translation Round



How the funding will be used:

The £1.5m investment will fund an 18-month, milestone-driven engineering translation programme to convert demonstrated feasibility into a clinical-evaluation-ready evidence package.

Funding will support the core engineering and product-development team; tracking, registration and system engineering; hardware development and NRE; QMS and design controls; regulatory and risk-management activities; usability and safety testing; and multi-user, multi-specimen cadaveric validation.

The programme has three gated value inflections: (1) core technology de-risked; (2) integrated system proven under simulated arthroscopic conditions; and (3) repeatable preclinical evidence and regulatory pre-alignment established for progression into clinical evaluation.

Details of previous funding awards:

OSBOT has previously secured approximately £700k of public and strategic capital, including:

- £200k Scottish Enterprise High Growth Spinout support
- £500k strategic private investment
- SMART: SCOTLAND feasibility support

This capital supported progression from research and technology development through prototype, phantom testing and cadaveric feasibility. The current £1.5m round represents the next engineering translation stage.

Company profile:

OSBOT is developing a surgeon-enhancement platform for precision orthopaedic surgery, designed to bring advanced surgical precision to minimally invasive procedures without the complexity and infrastructure of conventional robotic systems.

Its first application is arthroscopic ACL reconstruction, a high-volume procedure in which accurate tunnel placement is critical to outcome but execution remains largely manual. OSBOT combines patient-specific surgical planning, registration, optical tracking and real-time navigation to guide surgeon-controlled instrumentation while preserving existing arthroscopic workflow.

The integrated platform has progressed through prototype, phantom and cadaveric feasibility, demonstrating navigation-guided arthroscopic execution and establishing the requirements for engineering translation.

OSBOT's commercial model is based on deployment of a compact surgical navigation platform with procedure-related recurring revenues, initially targeting ACL reconstruction before expansion into additional orthopaedic procedures.

The company is now entering an 18-month engineering translation programme to establish design controls, generate repeatable preclinical evidence, complete regulatory engagement and deliver a clinical-evaluation-ready system. This will position OSBOT for subsequent clinical investigation and institutional Series A financing.

Website: <http://osbotmedical.com/>

Presenter: Wei Yao

ValiRx Animal Health



Date company established: February 2026

Number of employees: 0 directly employed; supported by three core executive team members employed within the ValiRx group.

Amount of funding sought: £750,000

How the funding will be used:

The £750,000 investment will be used to position VAH's lead veterinary oncology programme for a clinical field-study and establish the infrastructure required to develop additional assets.

Funding will support:

- £125,000 – Scale-up and synthesis of scale-up and synthesis of API suitable for the planned preclinical and toxicology programme
- £100,000 - Establishment of canine patient-derived cell (PDC) models for preclinical validation initially focussed on osteosarcoma and lymphoma) including;
 - » collection of veterinary tumour samples through clinical and referral-centre partnerships;
 - » derivation, expansion and characterisation of canine PDC models;
- £125,000 single species safety and toxicity testing;
- £150,000 manufacture and formulation of material for preclinical and field-studies;
- £100,000 - regulatory, ethical and clinical study planning;
- intellectual property, legal and commercial development; and
- £150,000 - essential scientific, operational and business development resource.

The investment will enable VAH to generate clinically relevant canine models, produce a robust veterinary data package and advance its lead programme to readiness for a two indication, multicentre field-study whilst initiating licensing and strategic partnership discussions with established animal-health companies.

Details of previous funding awards:

VAH has not received external funding awards to date. Since its incorporation in February 2026, its establishment and initial evaluation activities have been supported by its parent company, ValiRx plc. This support has included incorporation and licensing costs, marketing, management time and access to laboratory facilities.

Company profile:

ValiRx Animal Health (VAH) is developing cancer treatments for companion animals. Our comparative oncology platform leverages human safety and/or efficacy data with veterinary-relevant preclinical models, including patient-derived cells and spontaneous canine cancers, to progress assets with the greatest potential for translation.

VAH operates a capital-efficient in-licensing and partnership model. We source and de-risk oncology assets from biotechnology companies and academic groups, generate veterinary-specific data, and progress programmes through preclinical development into clinical field-studies. Value is created through strategic partnerships, co-development agreements and veterinary licensing deals with animal-health companies.

Our total addressable market is the \$1.3bn global canine oncology sector^[1], with an initial focus on canine osteosarcoma and lymphoma, where treatment options remain limited and clinical need is high. Partners and customers include animal-health pharmaceutical companies, veterinary oncology networks and referral centres.

ValiRx Animal Health continued

VAH aims to complete API scale-up and toxicology studies within 12 months and progress the lead programme to in-species proof-of-concept and field-study readiness within 18–24 months, creating a clear value inflection and positioning the programme for partnership with an established animal-health company.

[1] Grand View Research. Veterinary Oncology Market, 2025–2030. Canine segment: 86.09% of the \$1.57bn global market (2024).

Website: <https://www.valirxanimalhealth.com/>

Presenter: Melissa Barr