



Cambridge Innovation Capital portfolio company Microbiotica signs major collaboration with Genentech

Collaboration for microbiome biomarker signatures and therapeutic discovery based on Genentech IBD pipeline worth up to \$534 million

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Cambridge Innovation Capital plc (CIC), a Cambridge-based builder of technology and healthcare companies, notes that portfolio company Microbiotica, a leading player in microbiome-based therapeutics spun out of the Wellcome Sanger Institute, has entered into a multi-year strategic collaboration to discover, develop and commercialise biomarkers, targets and medicines for inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) with Genentech, a member of the Roche Group, in a deal worth up to \$534 million.

Under the terms of the agreement, Microbiotica will use its precision metagenomics microbiome platform to analyse patient samples from clinical trials of Genentech's investigational IBD medicines, in order to identify microbiome biomarker signatures of drug response, novel IBD drug targets, and live bacterial therapeutic products. Microbiotica will receive an undisclosed upfront payment and is eligible to receive research, development and commercialisation milestone payments up to \$534 million based on achievement of certain predetermined milestones. In addition, Microbiotica is eligible to receive royalties on sales of certain products resulting from the collaboration. Genentech also has an option to license assets that Microbiotica develops as a result of the research collaboration.

CIC helped launch Microbiotica in 2016, in order to commercialise ground-breaking microbiome science being developed at the Wellcome Sanger Institute, from the laboratory of Dr Trevor Lawley, CSO of Microbiotica. CIC owns a 33.6% stake in Microbiotica.

Dr Robert Tansley, Operating Partner at Cambridge Innovation Capital, commented: "From our first meeting with the Microbiotica team we became aware of the tremendous potential in its technology and knowledge base. This collaboration with Genentech, a world-leading biotechnology company, in just one of the many areas of application of the microbiome provides an excellent endorsement of Microbiotica's technology and underlines CIC's initial and continual rationale for supporting this business."

Dr Mike Romanos, CEO of Microbiotica, said: "This collaboration brings together a world-class pipeline of investigational IBD medicines from Genentech with the world-class microbiome capability of Microbiotica. We are excited by the opportunity to work with Genentech scientists in order to bring precision metagenomics into the clinical arena for the first time, enabling us to develop biomarkers and medicines for the benefit of patients."

"This collaboration reflects Microbiotica's strategy of utilising its platform for medicines and biomarker discovery while simultaneously expanding capabilities. Whilst Genentech will retain rights to



proprietary biomarkers, targets and medicines, the collaboration will enable Microbiotica to continue to rapidly expand its already leading Reference Genome Database and Culture Collection, further strengthening its value across all therapeutic areas.” added Dr Romanos.

James Sabry, M.D., Ph.D., Senior Vice President and Global Head of Genentech Partnering, said: “We believe that the microbiome represents a new paradigm in biomedicine both for understanding drug-response and as a novel therapeutic modality. We have chosen to collaborate with Microbiotica because of its high-quality science, and look forward to working together closely to potentially bring new medicines to people suffering from IBD.”

The Microbiotica platform comprises the world’s leading microbiome Culture Collection and linked Reference Genome Database which enable unprecedented precision of gut bacterial identification at clinical trial scale. Microbiotica is adding to this at a very rapid rate through its industrial culturing and sequencing pipeline, providing the best available representation of clinical trial samples for strain-level identification of bacteria. The complex datasets that arise from such studies are analysed using AI techniques to discern microbiome signatures linked to phenotype. The availability of the physical Culture Collection enables biological evaluation of bacteria in proprietary translational models including humanised microbiome mouse models.

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About Cambridge Innovation Capital plc

CIC combines a unique relationship with the University of Cambridge with deep financial and industry links to support rapidly growing intellectual property rich companies in the Cambridge Cluster. The company is committed to building leading businesses from brilliant technologies, with the benefit of some of the most influential figures in the sector and a patient capital structure.

For more information please visit www.cicplc.co.uk or follow us on Twitter at @CambsInnovation

About Microbiotica

Microbiotica was established in 2016 to develop and commercialise ground-breaking research into the role of the human microbiome in health and disease and its application to medicine conducted in the Host-Microbiotica Interactions Laboratory ("HMIL") at the Sanger Institute. The Company was founded by Dr Mike Romanos, Dr Trevor Lawley and Professor Gordon Dougan, FRS. Microbiotica is based at the Wellcome Genome Campus in Cambridge, UK, with offices in the Biodata Innovation Centre and laboratories in the Sanger Institute. It has a strategic collaboration with Genentech, a member of the Roche Group, in the field of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD).

For more information, please visit www.microbiotica.com

About the microbiome

Recognition of the importance of the microbiome, the body's trillions of resident bacteria, represents a paradigm-shift in our understanding of its impact on human health and disease. This creates major opportunities in the diagnosis and treatment of a wide range of disease including enteric infections, autoimmune disorders, metabolic disorders, cancer and neurological disease.