

# Manifesto for biotech collaboration

Collaboration is in the lifeblood of biotechs, so let's strengthen the ties with academia and finance to build strong biotechs.

- 'The UK, and especially the Crick, is leading the precision medicine revolution which offers tremendous opportunities for academics and entrepreneurs to partner to develop drugs that have transformational impacts on patients' lives.' **Kate Bingham, Managing Partner, SV Health Investors**
- 'We need to bring together the brightest minds to solve societies biggest healthcare challenges. Industry and academia can leverage their respective strengths to translate big ideas to treatments that change lives' **Sarah Howell, CEO, Arcor**
- 'We need biotechs to have access to the big data sets that are emerging in academia, for example genomic datasets, proteomic datasets.' **Natalie Mount, CSO, GammaDelta Therapeutics**
- 'Biotech and academia depend on each other. Great academic programmes cannot reach patients in need around the world without biotech, and biotech would not exist without great academics. We need to nurture each other, learn from each other and advance science together' **Andrea Spezzi, CMO, Orchard Therapeutics**
- 'We as biotechs need to find out more about all the good science in academia. Coming to the Crick is a wonderful step in that journey.' **Jane Dancer, CBO, F-Star Biotechnology**
- 'Let's think beyond the role of an academic moving to become a biotech CSO. There are impressive CEOs who have come straight from academia, some after their PhDs – although these are the exceptions rather than the rule. It all depends on the individual.' **Barbara Domayne-Hayman, CBO, Autifony**
- 'We need to collaborate to find solutions for the different funding cycles for academia and biotech. Academic junior research positions are generally funded for three years, yet biotech funding rounds are for up to two years.' **Andy Richards, serial bio entrepreneur and investor**
- 'Rigorous scientific testing and rationale at the early stage is crucial,' **Lucinda Crabtree, Senior Analyst, Woodford Investment Management**
- 'Biotechs need a Plan B for finance from the word go. They need to think beyond grants, start-up, series A, B rounds. Large corporate investors need to know when a company is going to hit milestones.' **Julie Simmonds, Director of Equity Research, Panmure Gordon**

Challenges and opportunities for biotech collaboration were discussed at the BioBeat17 summit on Re-shaping biotech partnering, held at the Francis Crick Institute.

Veronique Birault, Head of Translation, the Francis Crick Institute

Miranda Weston-Smith, Founder, BioBeat