

# ***Collaboration between Academia and Industry:***

*Debiopharm International SA*


*Université de Genève*

*14 May 2019*

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Associate General Counsel

IP & Legal Affairs



*“Apothecaries profit is become a bye-word, denoting something uncommonly extravagant. This great apparent profit, however, is frequently no more than the reasonable wages of labour. The skill of an apothecary is a much nicer and more delicate matter than that of any artificer whatever; and the trust which is reposed in him is of much greater importance.”*

Adam Smith, “The Wealth of Nations”, 1776

More than 150 years of collaboration between academia and industry in the field of pharmaceuticals.

For example:

the American Pharmaceutical Association

founded in 1852

# Debiopharm: Key Features

Privately-owned:	financially independent
Headquarters:	Lausanne, Switzerland
Operational centres:	Lausanne, Martigny
Team:	staff of more than 500
International network:	over 400 experts, consultants, advisors
Key expertise:	drug development
Track record:	5 products marketed



# 40 years

of expertise in drug development since 1979

At present

2019

**700,000**

patients treated **each year**  
with our products

**1,200,000**

**Patients**  
*Colorectal, prostate & pancreatic  
cancers*

## 1 Drug Project

### Licensors:

- Academia
- Start-up
- Biotech
- Pharma



Innovation

## 2 Creative Drug Development



Clinical Strategy  
Market Access  
Project & Life Cycle  
Management

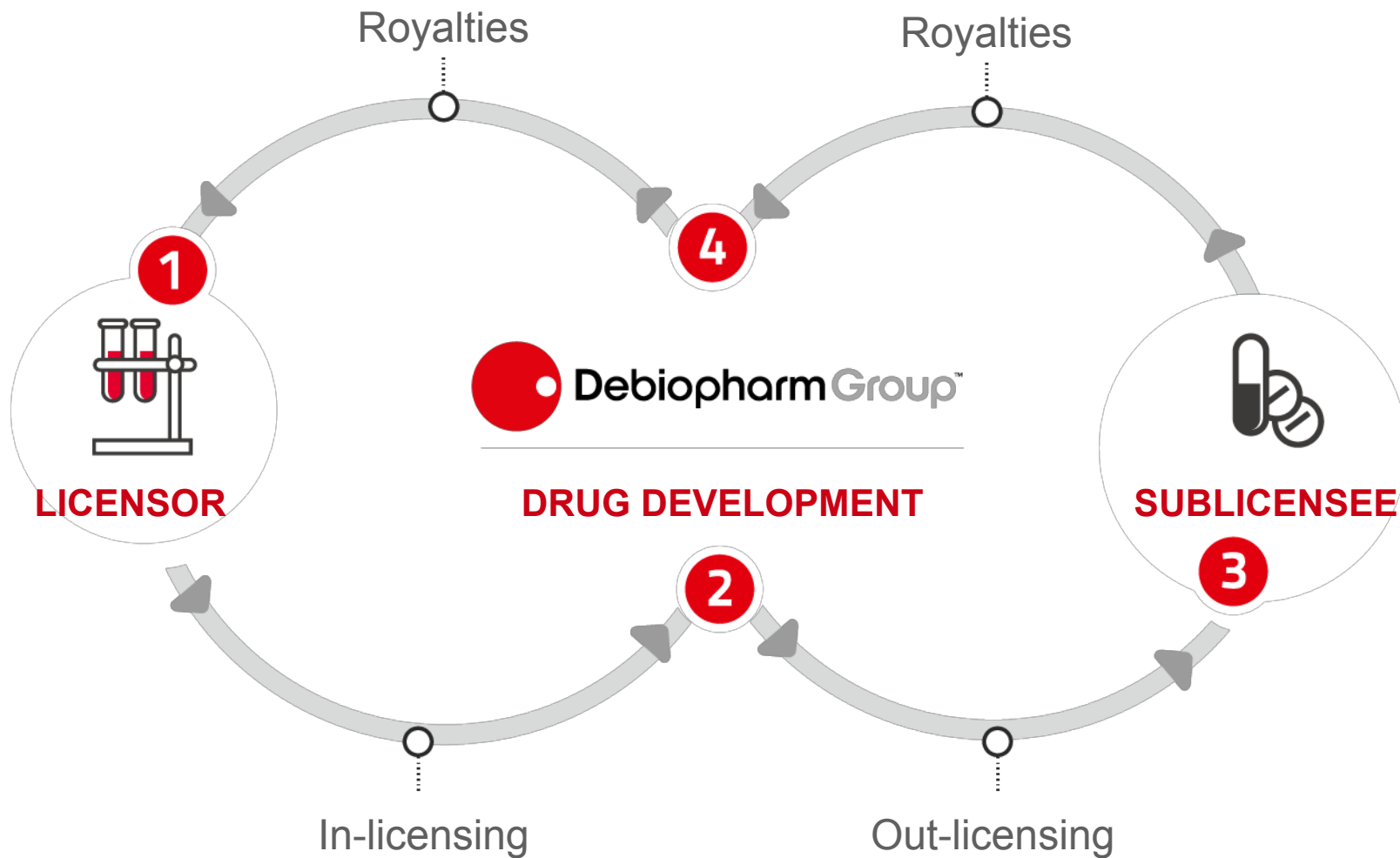
## 3 Patients

### Licensees:

Mid-size &  
Major Pharmaceutical  
Companies



Commercialization



- Confidentiality agreements (CDA)
- Consulting agreements  
(with a professor or with a University)

- «Endowment» agreements
- Awards  
(Japanese Cancer Association:  
JCA Mauvernay Award)
- Financing of a chair

- Investment in the share capital of a start-up (spin-off from Universities)

- Material transfer agreements
- Service agreements
- Research and development agreements

- Master service agreements
- Master research agreements

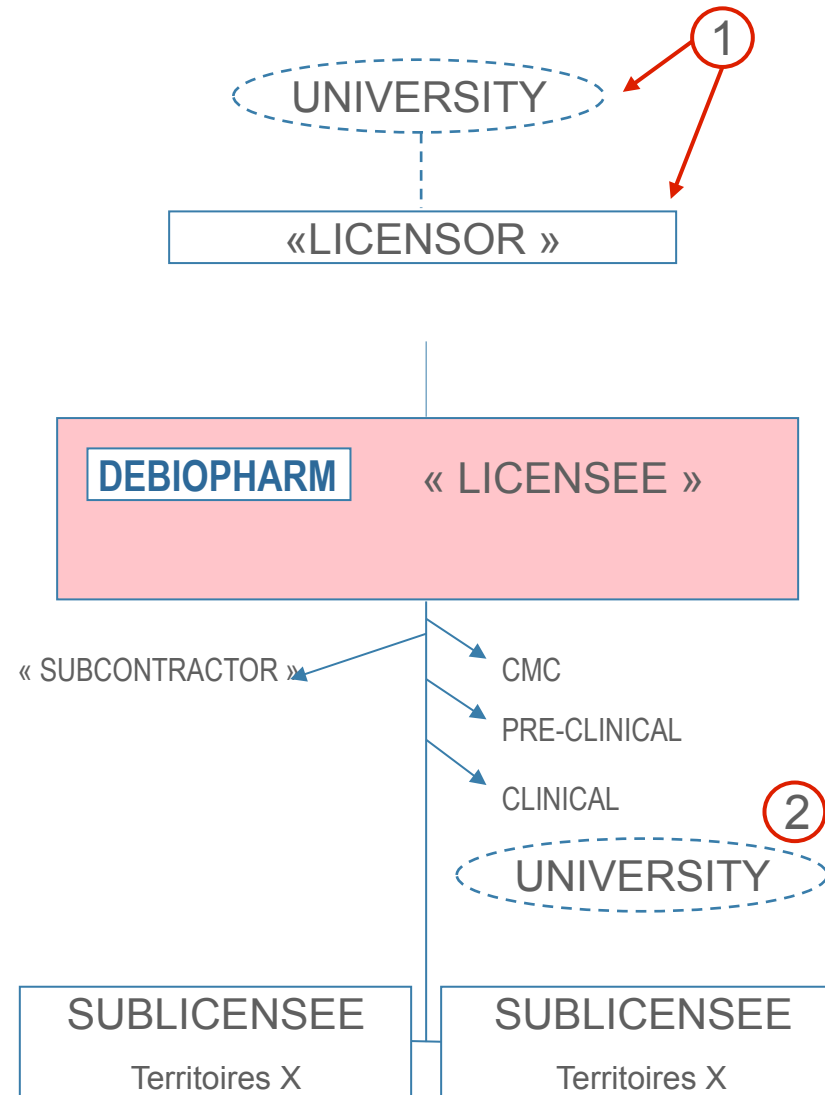
- Licensing agreements (in-licensing)



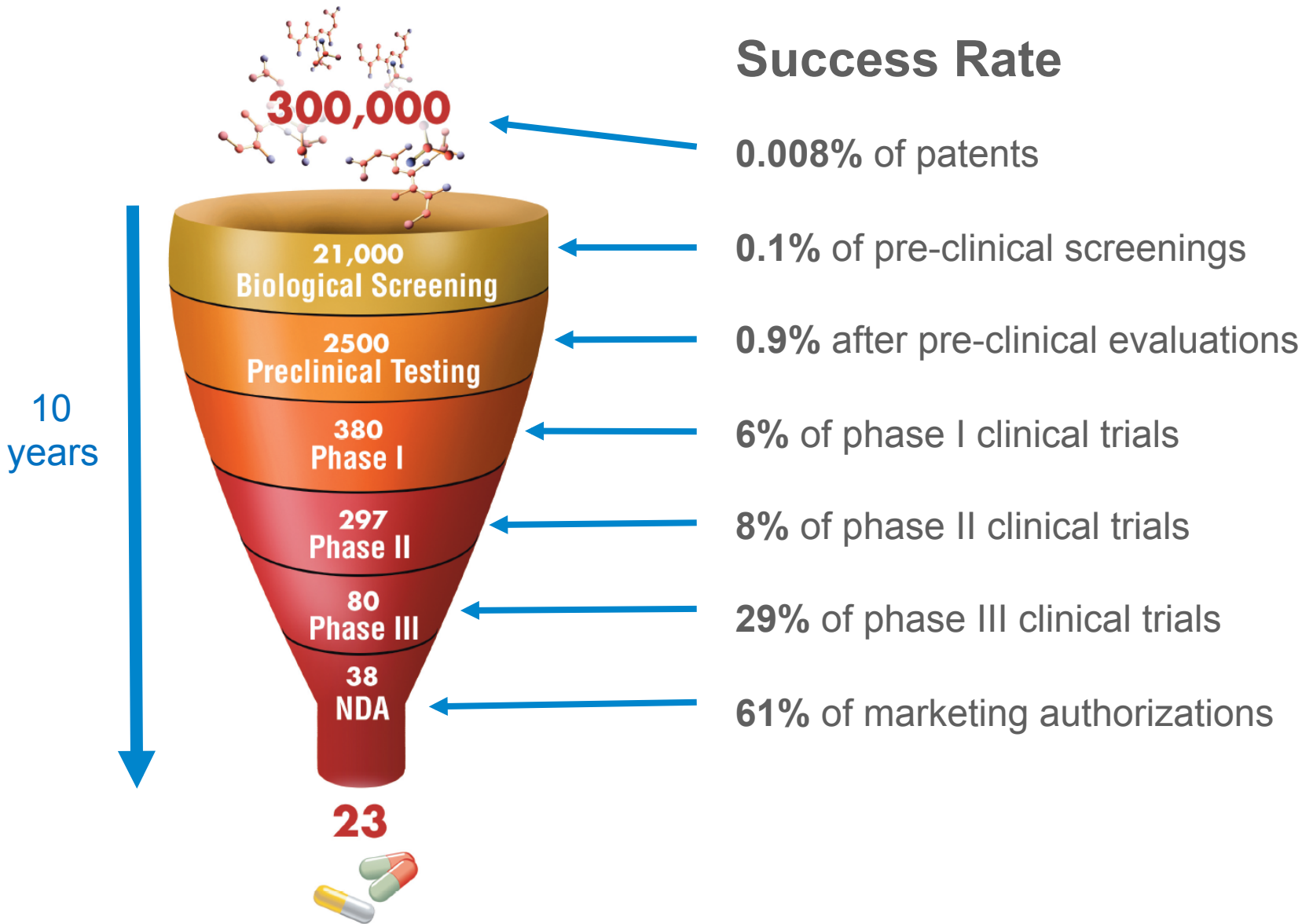
**License agreement (in-licensing)** regarding a compound: framework for all the other conditions in the development program:

- Confidentiality
- Publications
- Intellectual Property: ownership/ licensed rights
- Insurance
- Warranties
- Termination

Out-licensing agreement: essential conditions pertaining to the commercialization of products by licensees



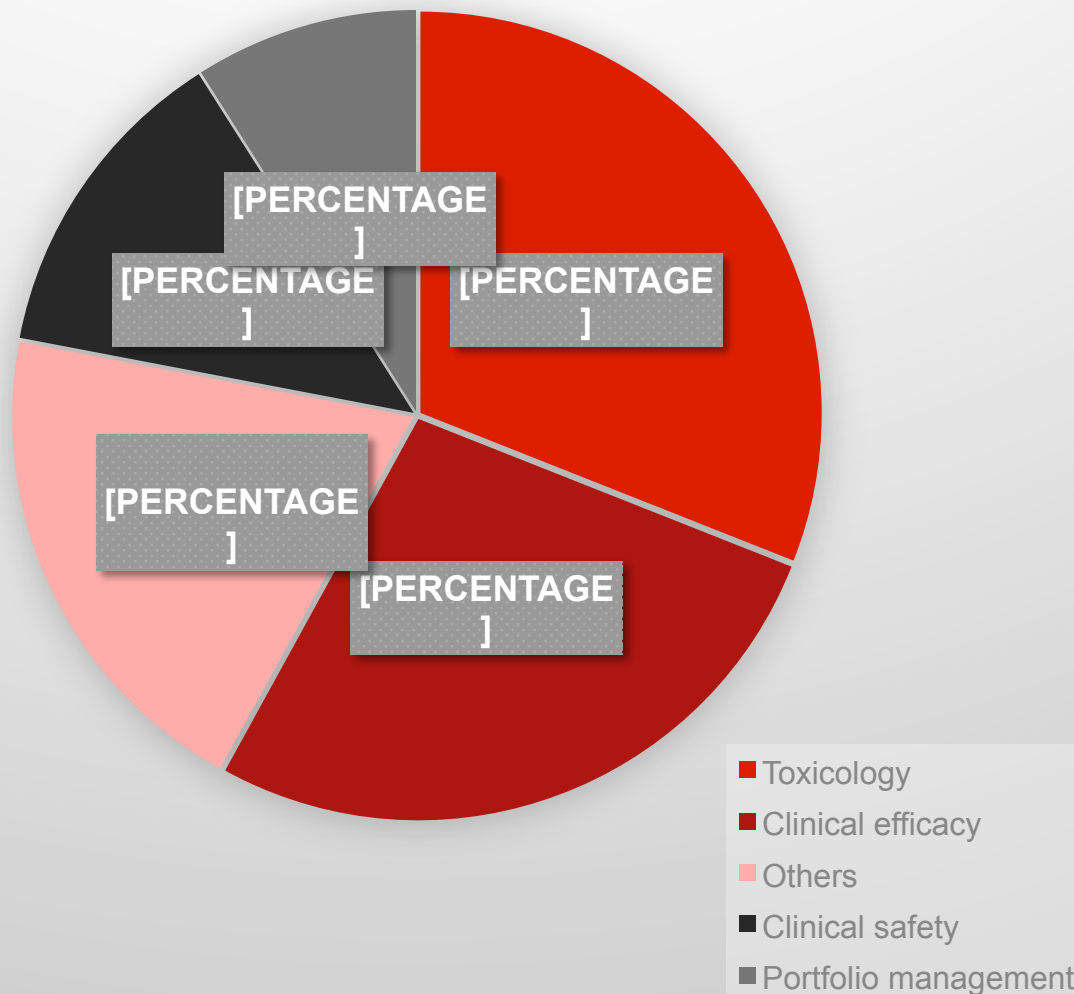
# Development is Very Risky!



<b>Development stage:</b>	<b>Success rate:</b>	<b>Probability of bringing a product to market:</b>
Pre-clinical	50%	10%
Phase I	70%	20%
Phase II	50%	30%
Phase III	70%	65%
FDA Filing	90%	90%

Based on figures published in "Die Pharmaindustrie", Dagmar Fischer and Jörg Breitenbach, third edition, 2010

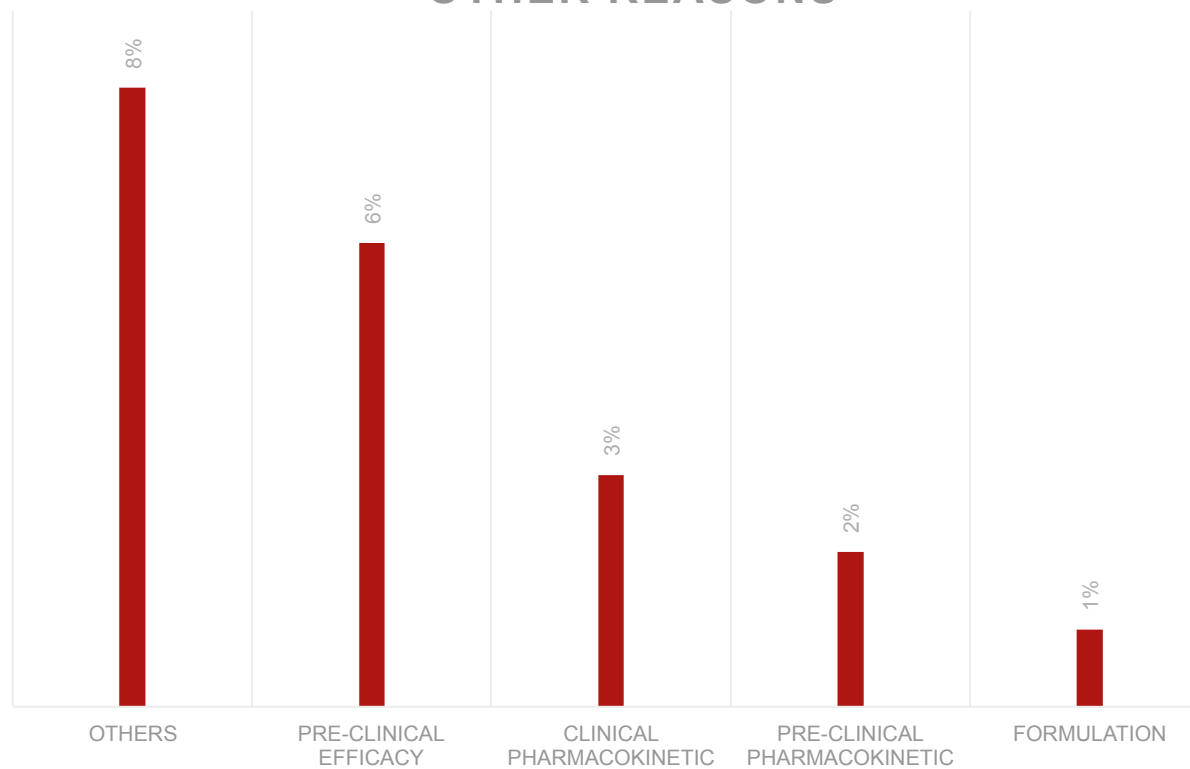
# Reasons for Terminating a Program



Based on figures published in "Die Pharmaindustrie", Dagmar Fischer and Jörg Breitenbach, third edition, 2010

# Reasons for Terminating a Program

## OTHER REASONS



Based on figures published in "Die Pharmaindustrie", Dagmar Fischer and Jörg Breitenbach, third edition, 2010

Entry to market:	Market share:
First company	28%
Second company	22%
	<b>50%</b>
Third company	18%
Fourth company	12%
Fifth company	5%

Based on figures published in "Die Pharmaindustrie", Dagmar Fischer and Jörg Breitenbach, third edition, 2010

Secure the **exploitation of commercial** drug candidate (DC) (FTO)

**Specifically** protect the DC

Preserve a **longer exclusivity period** (after data exclusivity)

Obtain a **strong patent**, at least for the DC

Obtain a broader claim

Facilitate and accelerate patent application examination in key markets

Preserve **life-cycle management**: obtaining additional patents

Likelihood of a **competitor's earlier filing**

**Patent not granted**: lack of inventive step/insufficient description

**Patent invalidated**: insufficient written description/lack of inventive step

**Secure Likelihood of non-authorized disclosure**

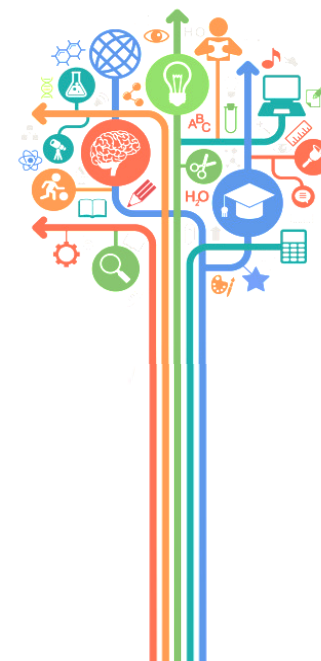
**R&D work to be conducted by academics**

## 1. In-Licensing Projects / Acquisitions:

- New Chemical Entity and New Biological Entity
- In oncology: all types, no vaccines, focus on targeted therapies
- In infectious diseases: targeted antibiotics, gram negative antibiotics

## 2. High Level of Expertise / Competences to:

- Develop cost effective drug / a diagnostic arm
- Redesign molecules
- Enhance patient access in emerging economies
- Explore new technologies, generate valuable knowledge
- Find solutions to solve a specific existing problem





### What do we look for when reaching out to a Professor for a collaboration?

- Their expertise and valuable opinion in the field of interest
- Well-known Key Opinion Leaders (KOLs) allow to improve the credibility of our project and to capitalize on their network
- Presence in their laboratory of a specific technique, animal model, or access to relevant clinical samples

Local contacts are privileged as communication is easier and frequent.

Face to face meetings are possible, however this is not an absolute requirement.

### How do we find who we could collaborate with ?

- Personal networks within our organization
- From the literature/conferences/university websites/consortiums
- Scouting team when looking for new opportunities
- Influencer Map: visual representation of the landscape of influencers of relevance to a project and how they are connected

### How to proceed, 2 step- process:

- Non-confidential information to be exchanged (package for In-licensing)
- Signature of a confidentiality agreement (CDA; bilateral) to exchange confidential information

## Information Package (not a 1 page document)

**Tell a story, talk about the future market**, don't talk about the history of the research

- Short power point presentation with non-confidential data (a patent application is not enough)
- Sell your product:
  - Indication, medical need
  - Type of molecule
  - Relevance of target, describe MOA
  - Stage of development:
    - *Efficacy data*
    - *Safety data*
- Important to highlight therapeutic areas and development stage: (we want to see in vivo efficacy data) and the unique properties of your project
- **Disclose potential issues, we will find out eventually anyways**

**Provide as much data as possible!**

## 1. Preparation: who shall sign?

- Under their name or the name of the University?
- Who is authorized to sign?

## 2. Who shall Approve?



## 3. Invoice / costs:

- Invoices to be sent regularly

(Do not send invoices regarding incurred costs two years later.)

- Transparency regarding costs

Misalignment between us and the professor/university in terms of goals or needs:

- Timing of publications, often too early (even caused one project to be stopped).

“Professor was looking for visibility and therefore wanted to do a large clinical study, we wanted a quick proof-of-concept and were only willing to do a smaller and simpler study”

Lack of communication and governance problems

“Professor was managing the research in his laboratory as if he was the owner of the project. We were not empowered, and the decisions we made were not followed”

Unwillingness to collaborate and share the knowledge

“As a condition for a collaboration with his laboratory, a professor required a consultancy agreement. This agreement had to be done on his own terms: a monthly payment fee without notion of number of hours of services, and no requirement of written reports”

“The same professor, when solicited for consultancy, was systematically unwilling to commit and share his knowledge: we paid him for nearly 1½ years for almost nothing in exchange”



## Conclusion: Collaboration YES, IF ....

### Implement collaborations where:

- Exclusivity on our Project: preserved/enhanced

### Monitoring the risks:

- Free exchange of ideas /timely dissemination of results

### Alignment on goals/needs: is key

- Need to clearly define goals and responsibilities

### Agreements negotiated on a case by case basis

- But academics need to be prepared

**Time is of the essence!**



Thank you for your attention

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**Do you have any questions ?**

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DEBIOPHARM INTERNATIONAL S.A.

developing &  
financing  
innovative  
drugs

## Contact information

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