# The UK's Centre of Excellence in AMR

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Emerging Antimicrobials and Diagnostics in AMR – 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019



The AMR Centre mission is to build a unique and exciting collaborative portfolio of new technologies targeting drug-resistant superbugs

### The UK's Northern Powerhouse: Translational Infrastructure for AMR

World-class public and private infrastructure for the development of AMR drugs

Over 50% of all UK industrial R&D employees in AMR

Innovative regional SMEs driving 35% of the UK's AMR drug pipeline

#### **The AMR Centre**

#### Alderley Park

For-profit company with public, venture philanthropic and private investors to drive translation of new therapeutics from pre-clinical development to clinical proof of concept

#### **Northern Health Science Alliance**

#### Manchester

Representing the 8 leading research hospitals in the National Health Service (NHS) across the North of England with access to over 15 million patients

#### Centre of Excellence in Infectious Disease Research (CEIDR)

Liverpool University/Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine University centre of excellence in translation of infectious disease programs from research to clinical trials in the UK and internationally **Centre for Antimicrobial Pharmacodynamics** University of Liverpool University centre of excellence in PK/PD supporting translation of new international drug programs into clinical trials

#### Medicines Discovery Catapult

#### Alderley Park

Innovate UK centre of excellence in the development of new tools and networks to support the development of new drugs with AMR as one of its key themes

#### Evotec (UK) Ltd

#### Alderley Park

Largest contract research organisation in Europe focused on antimicrobial drug development, supporting SMEs and its own pipeline of new drugs for AMR





### Taking Action on New Drugs for AMR

#### Why is the antibiotics market failing?

Incremental development, with low levels of innovation

 Development costs are too high meaning that the risk reward balance does not incentivise investors

- SMEs are doing the majority of R&D, but are under funded and under resourced
- Clinical pathways are inflexible and invariably target noninferiority

#### What actions are we taking for new AMR drugs?

- Focus on innovative strategies targeting WHO critical priority drug-resistant pathogens
- Leveraging public, venture philanthropic and private funding with capacity and expertise to reduce the cost of development and minimise requirement for equity
- Partner with SMEs to share developmental risks and provide capacity and expertise
- Develop innovative approaches to clinical trials with regulators to get faster to a label



**Targeting** infectious diseases with high unmet need, in particular focusing on the World Health Organisation's "critical priority' pathogens

**Acquiring** a portfolio of innovative technologies with at least *in-vivo* efficacy demonstrated to fast track towards clinical proof of concept

**Developing** novel therapeutic approaches for critical priority diseases by:

• In-licensing - with AMRC responsible for development to clinical proof of concept with the option to backlicense to partner or out license to third party

• Co-development - with a fully integrated, collaborative partnership managed by a joint steering team responsible for marketing or licensing to third party





## UK Network in Action: AMR Centre – Shionogi collaboration

**AMR Centre Business Model** 



Initial meeting in Japan in 2017 supported by UK Department for International Trade

Extensive AMRC due diligence and Scientific Advisory Board review

AMRC re-design of clinical program and new Target Product Profile developed Shionogi license to AMRC in 2019

AMRC responsible for Phase 1 and Phase 2 trials using established clinical and patient networks

Regular joint steering committee meetings through the project Led by AMRC clinical project team with NHS clinicians

Phase 1a/b to be conducted in NHS clinical trial facilities at Liverpool Supply chain and CMC outsourced to partner CMO Shionogi commercialisation option after Phase 2

Reward for AMRC to reinvest in programs and return value to our public, philanthropic and private investors

Overall significant reduction in cost and time to proof of concept



A world-class translational centre of excellence building collaborative networks to challenge antimicrobial resistance



Building a portfolio of new therapeutics to treat patients with life-threatening infections

Translating programs from pre-clinical development into clinical trials

Targeting the World Health Organisation's critical priority drug-resistant microbes

### AMRC Portfolio & Pipeline





# Case Study

MDV01 – Development of a Broad Spectrum Metallo-β-Lactamase Inhibitor



## AMR Undermining Modern Medicine

### World Health Organization Model List of Essential Medicines

21st List 2019



By Jason Gale

infection



"Yes, your cancer will be controlled, but then you may die of infection"

- Carbapenems are a key antibiotic on the WHO **Essential Medicines List**
- Antibiotics underpin all modern medicine and are essential in the immunocompromised:
  - Cancer patients •
  - Surgical procedures ٠
  - Transplant patients
- Untreatable infections on the rise
- $\beta$ -lactam +  $\beta$ -lactamase inhibitor combinations . well validated in clinic
  - β-lactams are the most commonly used ٠ antibiotics
  - $\beta$ -lactamase inhibitors have preserved  $\beta$ -• lactams since 1981 (e.g. Augmentin – amoxacillin+clavulanate)



## Metallo-β-Lactamases (MBLs): A Global Threat

- Rapidly growing form of carbapenem resistance WHO critical pathogens
- Endemic in many countries India, China, Bangladesh
- Increasing prevalence in many western countries
- Geographical variance of MBL subtypes ie. NDM, VIM & IMP crucial to tackle all





Challenge: Metallo-β-lactamase	<ul><li>Rapidly growing form of carbapenem resistance</li><li>High unmet medical need</li></ul>	Endemic: India, China, Japan, Greece Prevalent: Europe, UK, USA
Target:	<ul> <li>Prolong the utility and lifespan of carbapenems</li> <li>Broad spectrum MBL inhibition (NDM, VIM &amp; IMP</li> <li>Combination therapy versus Enterobacteriaceae</li> <li>No clinical projects with this approach hit this spec</li> </ul>	<b>classes)</b> trum





## **MBLs: Mechanism of Action**





### MDV01: Preclinical Candidate Profile

**Target Product**: MBL inhibitor + Meropenem for treatment of MBL-producing Enterobacteriaceae **Target Indications:** Complicated urinary tract infections, lung infections, intraabdominal infection and others

### **Biology**

- Potent inhibition of NDM, IMP and VIM
- ✓ Synergistic with meropenem
- Efficacious in vivo
- Low propensity for resistance

#### **DMPK**

- Excellent in vitro and in vivo DMPK properties
- Supports co-dosing with Meropenem
- Excellent tissue distribution



### Safety

- Excellent in vitro safety
- No off-target activity (MMP, Cerep, hERG)
- In vivo repeat-dose study
- ✓ Therapeutic index >50







# Thank You

Please contact us – **info@amrcentre.com** – to find out about partnering opportunities



