



Gyroscope Therapeutics led consortium secures INNOVATE UK funding to develop a suspension platform for cost effective manufacture of novel AAV gene therapies

Stevenage, 14 November 2018 – Gyroscope Therapeutics (Gyroscope) and Freeline Therapeutics (Freeline) are partnering with two research organisations, NHSBT's Clinical Biotechnology Centre (CBC) and the Centre for Process Innovation (CPI), to develop and design a manufacturing platform to produce novel (adeno-associated virus) AAV gene therapies. The consortium has been awarded £1.1m funding by Innovate UK over a period of 2 years.

This funding is a great endorsement of the work currently being undertaken at Gyroscope and Freeline and will help the companies as they continue to develop a shared scalable suspension platform for cost effective manufacture of novel AAV gene therapies. Establishing a fully integrated AAV gene therapy platform is key to ensuring rapid and secure manufacture of clinical supplies and commercial product. Gyroscope and Freeline were complimented on the application which was viewed as a “very high-quality application” and specifically, “a very good application from 2 therapeutic companies coming together.”

Ultimately, the successful outcome will address a significant manufacturing challenge for gene therapies, strengthen the UK position as a leader in scientific innovation, offer scope for investment and employment into UK Pharmaceutical manufacturing and bring healthcare benefits to patients.

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About Gyroscope Therapeutics Ltd

Gyroscope Therapeutics (Gyroscope) is a UK based ocular gene therapy company founded in 2016. Gyroscope is committed to changing ophthalmology and preventing the devastating impact of sight loss. It is exploiting the convergence and breakthroughs in genetics and proprietary insights into the role of the complement system in Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) to develop a series of one-off gene therapy treatments for chronic eye diseases. The Company is taking the use of gene therapy beyond orphan diseases into broader patient populations. Gyroscope's lead programme is being developed in dry age-related macular degeneration (dAMD). AMD is the most common cause of blindness among the elderly in the industrialised world and accounts for 8.7% of all cases of blindness worldwide. Vision loss is due to degeneration of the macula, the part of the retina responsible for the sharp, central vision. The geographic atrophy (GA) progression towards blindness is inevitable and with no approved treatments available we are addressing this high unmet medical need.



About Freeline Therapeutics Ltd

Freeline is a privately-held clinical-stage biotechnology company focused on AAV based gene therapy targeting the liver. Our vision is to create better lives for people suffering from chronic systemic diseases using the potential of gene therapy as a one-time curative treatment. Freeline is headquartered in the UK and has operations in Germany and the US.

Our next generation gene therapy builds upon the pioneering work that Freeline CSO and University College London Professor Amit Nathwani published in the New England Journal of Medicine in 2011 and 2014.

About NHSBT's Clinical Biotechnology Centre (CBC)

The Clinical Biotechnology Centre (CBC) is part of NHS Blood and Transplant. Based on years of experience, our customer-tailored approach is designed to support healthcare, academic and commercial organisations through the production of DNA and protein-based therapeutics for early phase clinical trial and beyond.

To date, we have manufactured over 100 DNA plasmids and recombinant proteins to treat patients across the world.

About Centre for Process Innovation (CPI)

CPI is a world-class open-access independent innovation centre and a founding member of the UK's High Value Manufacturing Catapult, with a unique remit to drive manufacturing technology innovation to benefit UK businesses and drive UK competitiveness. As well as strong commercial expertise, CPI is an experienced collaborative R&D partner, currently working on numerous national and EU funded projects. The project will utilise CPI's state of the art facilities at the National Biologics Manufacturing Centre in Darlington and the resources of its process development team, who have a track record of development, scale-up and technology transfer of processes suitable for GMP manufacture and clinical production of biological medicines