



# Company Presentation

July 2022

AIM: POLB  
OTCQB: POLBF

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# Building a Leading Infectious Diseases Company



**Spun out from**  **Open Orphan**

Deep roots in infectious disease & the clinical trials business

**Fully funded** £25m raised at IPO July 2021



**Long term shareholders** including leading institutions

Cathal Friel **7.28%**

Schroders Investment Management **5.13%**

## Poolbeg has a unique capital light & early monetisation model

Only similar company is Evotec in Germany which has a \$4.1bn market cap. Evotec also has deep roots in the clinical trials business

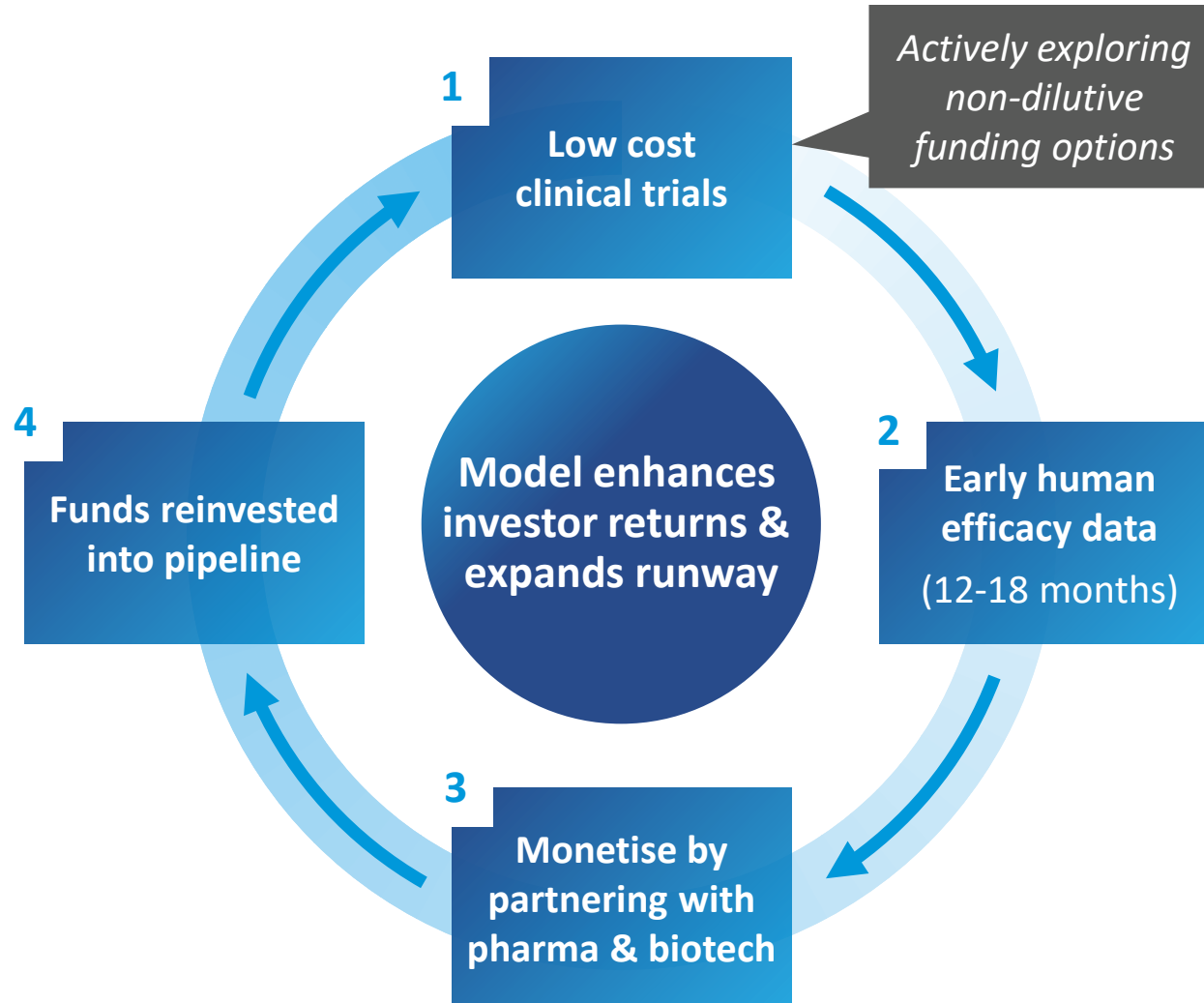
**Targeting booming infectious disease market**  
**Expected value >\$250bn by 2025**

**Experienced team** have previously created c. \$1bn in shareholder value

- **Rapidly expanding portfolio of assets**
- **Self funding business model - out-licensing early and often**
- **Focus on European and N. American rights - can sell Asian & other market rights for cash**
- **Becoming a one-stop-shop for big pharma and biotechs seeking infectious disease assets**

# Rapid Development & Frequent Out-Licencing

Developing multiple assets at once - reducing risk



## Recent infectious disease deals

### GSK acquires Affinivax

\$2.1b upfront + \$1.2b follow-on, May 2022  
*Pneumococcal vaccine & vaccine platform (Phase II)*

### Pfizer acquired ReViral

up to \$525m, April 2022  
*Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) (Preclinical – Phase II assets)*

### Merck acquired OncoImmune

\$425m upfront, Nov 2020  
*COVID-19 (Phase III)*

### Pfizer's Valneva deal

\$130m upfront + \$188m follow-on, April 2020  
*Lyme Disease (Phase II)*

### Bav Nordic licence Chinese rights to Nuance Pharma

\$12.5m upfront + \$200m follow-on, Mar 2022  
*Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) (Phase III ready)*

# The Year in Review – 12 months since IPO

Executing on our strategy – momentum continuing to build

## POLB 001

LPS challenge trial  
commencement imminent

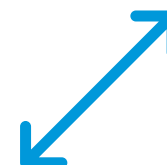
Data expected by year end  
with monetisation to rapidly  
commence thereafter



## Multiple deals completed

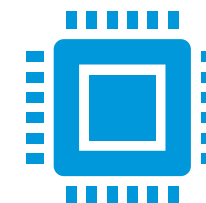
Expansion & diversification  
of portfolio – reducing risk & increasing  
upside potential

- ✓ POLB 002
- ✓ POLB 003 + 5 other vaccine candidates  
under review
- ✓ Oral Vaccine Delivery Platform



## 2 Artificial Intelligence deals signed

Identify new drug targets  
& treatments for RSV & Influenza



Commenced  
trading on US  
OTCQB market

March 2022

OTC  
Markets



Well capitalised with a strong cash balance of  
£20.9m at 31 Dec 2021

Low cash burn & significant financial resources to support growing pipeline  
Exploring non-dilutive grant funding

# Expanding Pipeline of Assets

## Product pipeline


Product Candidate	Program	PreClinical	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
POLB 001	Severe Influenza treatment	LPS trial data expected Q4 '22		Monetisation Zone	
POLB 002	Respiratory virus infections treatment & prophylactic				
POLB 003	Melioidosis vaccine*				

Targeting significant upfront payments followed by milestone payments & royalties

## Programmes & Platforms

**Artificial Intelligence Drug Discovery Programme**


*Influenza*



Outputs - H1 2023

**Artificial Intelligence Drug Discovery Programme**


*Respiratory Syncytial Virus*



Outputs - H2 2022

**Oral Vaccine Delivery Platform**

*Developing vaccines for multiple indications*



**Vaccine Discovery Platform**

*Identify vaccine candidates from naturally occurring immune response*

**PredictViral™**

*Identify patients at risk of developing severe disease early*

*In active discussions for a range of other assets*



# POLB 001 – Severe Influenza Treatment

Clinical stage potential blockbuster immunomodulator

## Potential transformational treatment

- Positive Phase I studies completed
  - Safe & well tolerated
- Agnostic to viral strain
- Shelf-stable oral drug
  - Ideal for stockpiling



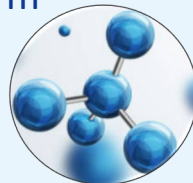
## Worldwide rights for all uses in humans

- Patent protected until 2038
- Expanding IP
- Exploring further disease indications = increase value



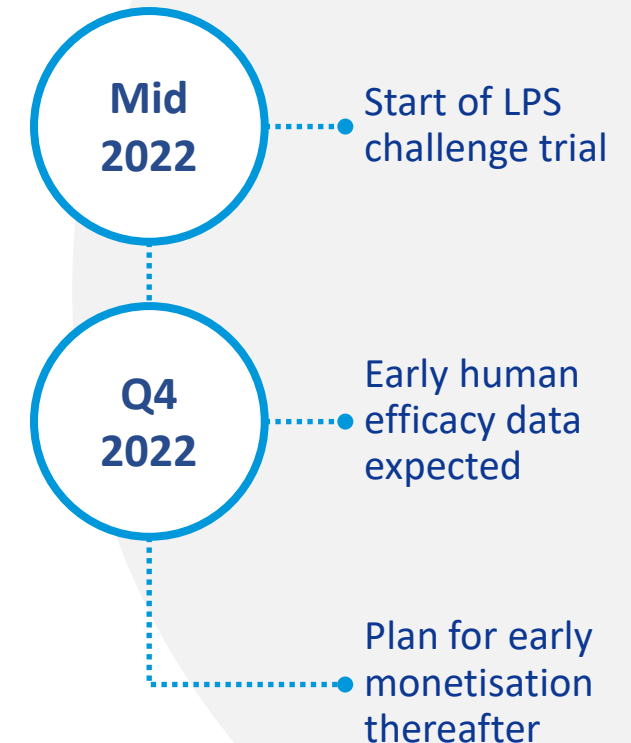
## How does it work?

- Flu virus activates the inflammatory immune pathway, p38 MAP Kinase
- In severe flu p38 is over-activated causing a potentially deadly cytokine storm
- POLB 001 blocks p38 stopping the tissue damage caused by the cytokine storm



## Large addressable market

- Potential peak sales \$275m+ in influenza alone in Europe & US
- No suitable drug on the market



# POLB 001 – Successful Phase I study already completed

Safety and tolerability demonstrated – rapid progression to challenge study

## Phase 1 Key Outcomes



### Predictable and durable response

Data collected in this study demonstrate that POLB 001 administration produces a potent and long-lasting inhibition of p38 MAP-kinase activity in humans



### Safe and well-tolerated

After administration of single doses up to 600 mg and repeated doses up to 150 mg, there were neither serious nor limiting adverse events to POLB 001



### LPS Ex-Vivo

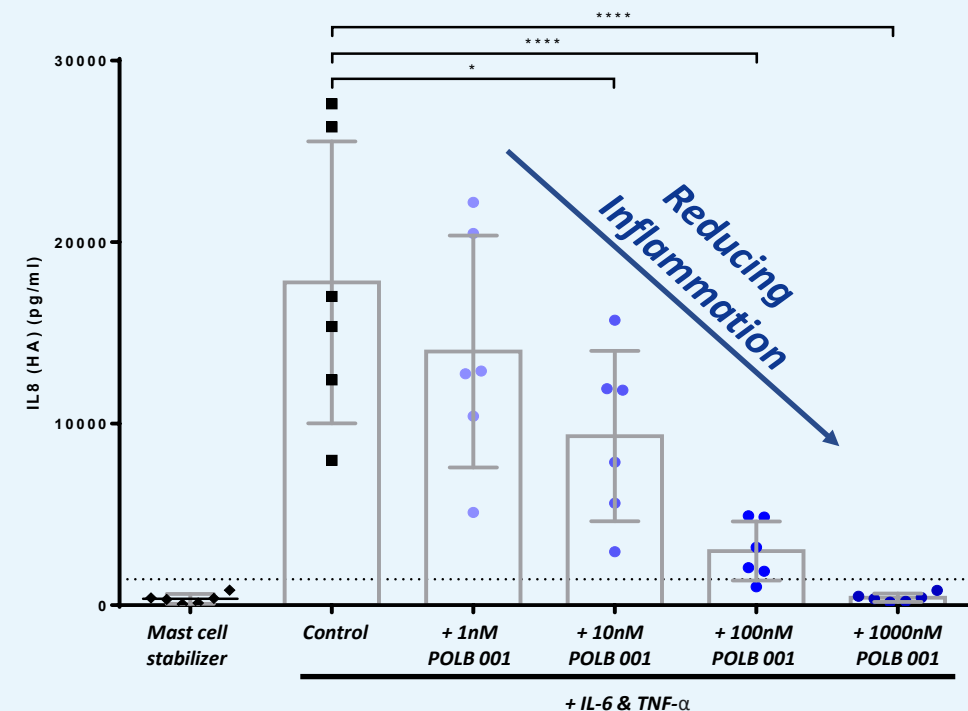
At a 150mg twice daily dose, an inhibition of LPS-induced TNF- $\alpha$  between 70 & 90% was achieved



### Eliminated class-associated tox issues

Short-term use of p38 for acute inflammation overcomes tox concerns associated with long-term treatment with p38 inhibitors for chronic inflammatory conditions (e.g. Arthritis)

*POLB 001's ability to interrupt the feedback loop of inflammatory mediators that result in a 'cytokine storm' make it an ideal candidate to reduce disease severity for those most at risk*



*To simulate hyperinflammatory conditions, immune cells were treated with IL-6 and TNF- $\alpha$ , and IL-8 was used as a marker to measure resulting inflammation. The addition of POLB 001 reversed the inflammatory response in a dose dependent manner.*



# POLB 001 – p38 inhibitor for severe influenza

The challenge trial will use LPS as a surrogate for severe influenza to evaluate the efficacy of POLB 001

LPS Trial Objective: To evaluate the effect of POLB 001 on inflammatory responses following an intradermal and an intravenous LPS challenge in healthy volunteers

## Trial Design

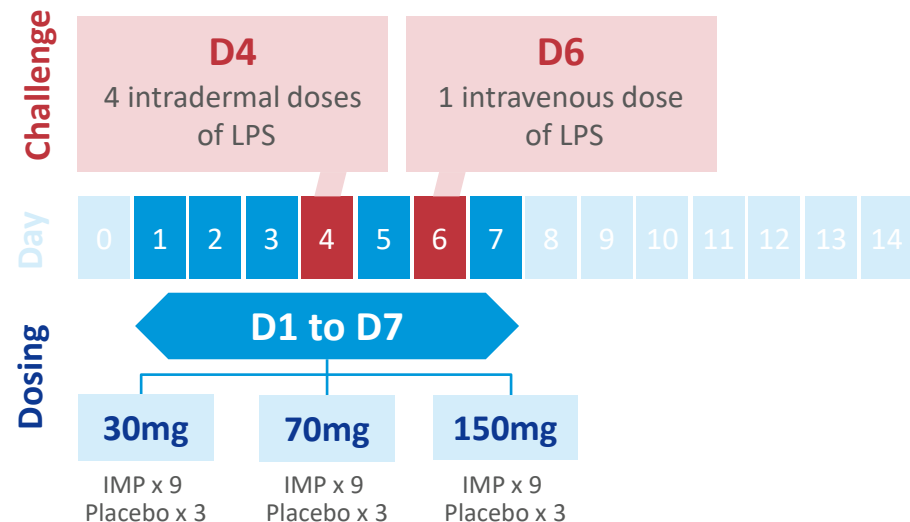
- A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multiple dose, inflammatory challenge trial in healthy volunteers
- Three cohorts with escalating dose, 12 volunteers per cohort
- POLB 001 or placebo dosed orally, twice daily for 7 consecutive days

## 1. Patient Profile

Healthy volunteers without a history of inflammatory diseases, anti-inflammatory medicines use or other inflammatory complications



## 2. Trial design



## 3. Endpoints

### Intradermal LPS challenge

- Skin response by imaging
- Blister exudate analysis
- Skin punch biopsy
- Safety & tolerability

### Intravenous LPS challenge

- Bloods (cytokines, vascular markers, CRP)
- *Ex-vivo* LPS response
- Safety & tolerability (inc. vital signs, AE's, ECG, Haematology)

# POLB 002 - A global need for respiratory virus infection products

Most respiratory virus infections cannot be treated

15%

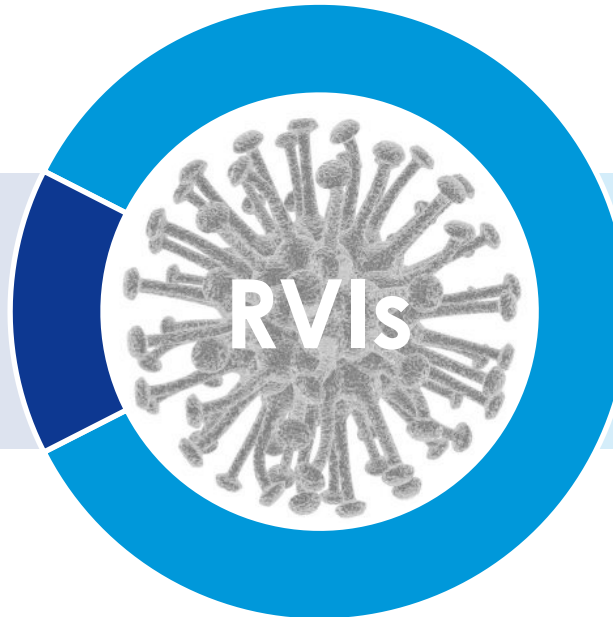
INFLUENZA

**VACCINES**

Protection variable

**ANTI-VIRAL THERAPIES**

Require diagnosis of virus type



85%

NON-INFLUENZA RVIs

**FEW AVAILABLE  
TREATMENTS**

***“A broad spectrum antiviral that gets around the fact that we don’t always know what we are treating would be game changing”***

US Key Opinion Leader

# POLB 002 - Respiratory Virus Infection Immunotherapy

First-in-class, broad spectrum, RNA-based

- Single dose, intranasal, dual action prophylactic & therapeutic
  - Triggers nasal cells into an antiviral state to protect against the virus
  - Blocks the virus from replicating
- Late preclinical stage with extensive preclinical data package
  - No reduction in efficacy or safety issues after repeat dosing
- US & European patents granted & continuing to expand

## Respiratory Virus Infections

**5-20%**

global  
population  
infected  
by seasonal  
outbreaks

**3M+**

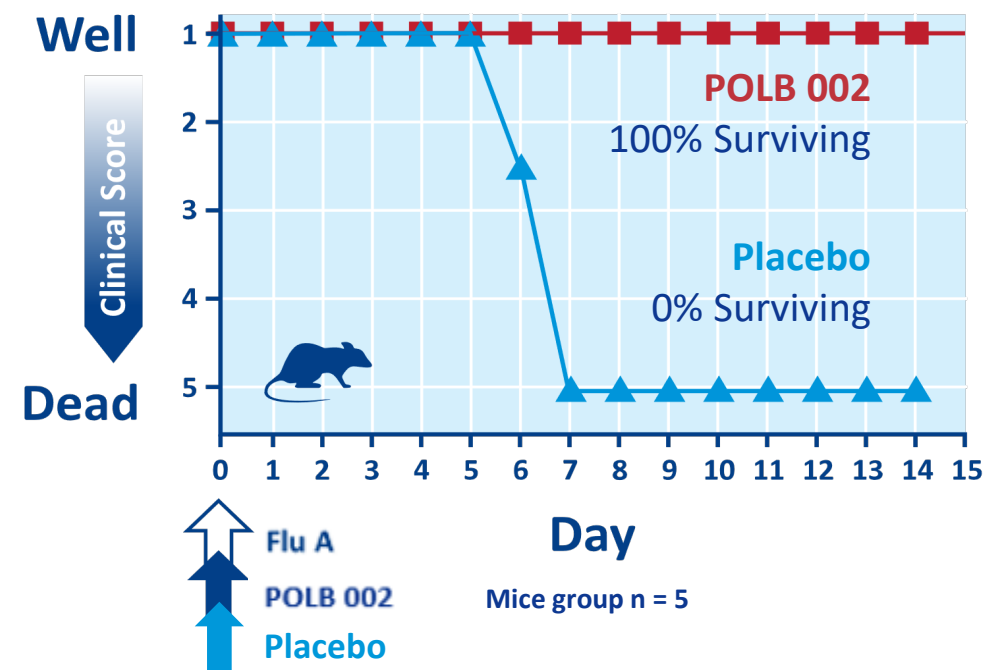
annual deaths  
worldwide

**Top 5**

global cause  
of death

**Pandemic  
Potential**

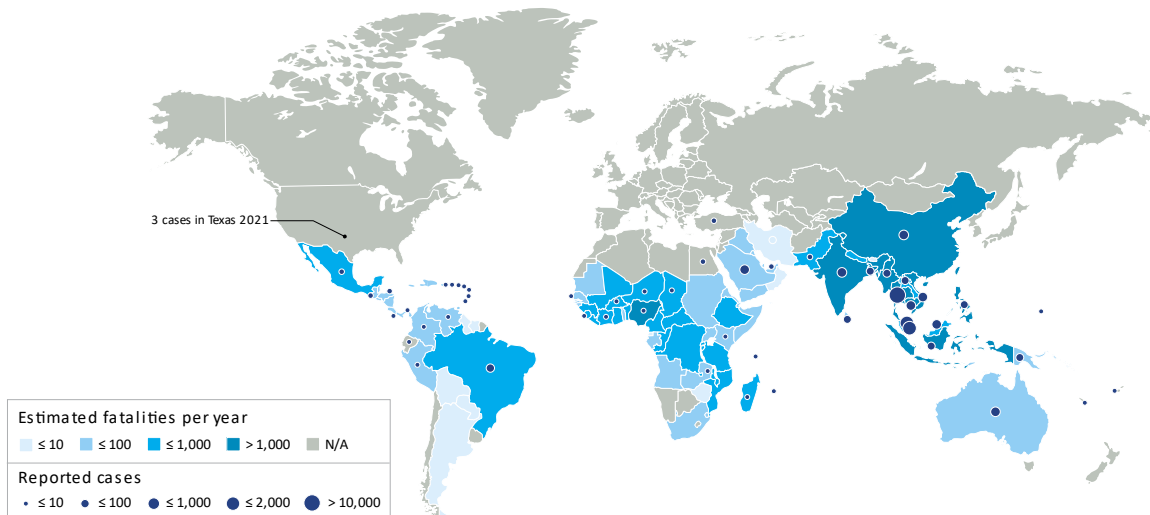
### In-vivo Influenza A challenge



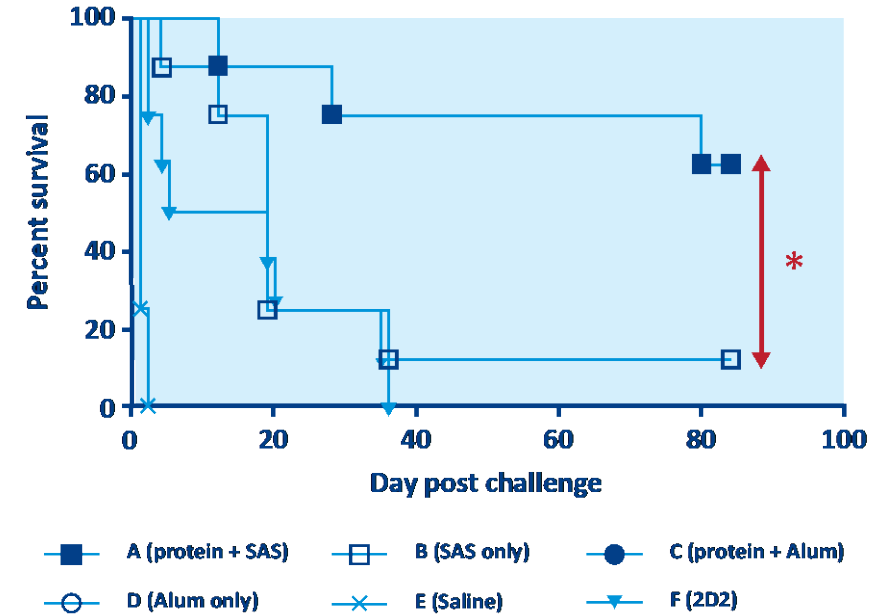
# POLB 003 – Melioidosis Vaccine

## Potential for non-dilutive funding

- Late pre-clinical stage
- Wellcome Trust funded early development
- Global incidence of Melioidosis rising due to climate change
- CDC designated Tier 1 Select Agent biothreat
- Antibiotic resistant
- Under the agreement with UCD, 5 other vaccine programs are also being evaluated



POLB 003 significantly enhances survival in a murine model of chronic Melioidosis



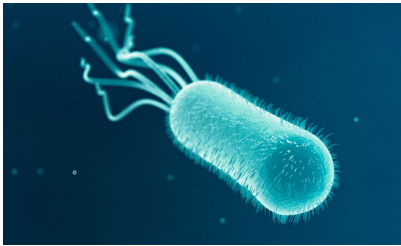
**165,000**  
estimated cases  
per annum

**54%**  
of cases are fatal

**0**  
vaccines  
available

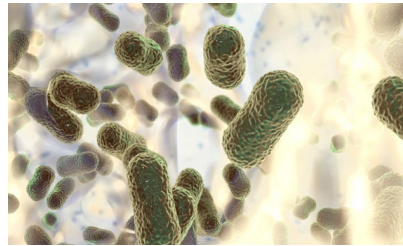
# Additional vaccine candidates from UCD

## Option agreement for 5 additional vaccine antigen candidates



### *O157 E.coli/STEC/ VTEC*

- Lead antigen candidates selected
- Powerful toxin can severely harm children & elderly and leave lasting kidney damage



### *Acinetobacter baumannii*

- Multiple antigens identified
- Prevalent issue in US Defence and healthcare settings, resulting in burdensome management of complications



### *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

- Multiple antigens identified
- Leading cause of morbidity and mortality in **cystic fibrosis**
- Interest area for National Institute of Health (NIH)



### *Klebsiella pneumoniae*

- Lead antigen candidates selected
- Significant cause of hospital-acquired infections with large impact on health budgets



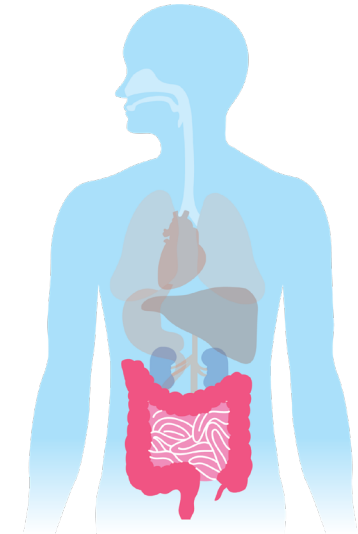
### *Burkholderia cepacia complex*

- Lead antigen candidates selected
- Poses threat to immuno-compromised patients in care settings such as Cystic Fibrosis patients

# Oral Vaccine Delivery Platform

Exclusive licence to encapsulation technology for vaccine generation

- Developing oral vaccine delivery platform that generates ‘mucosal immunity’
  - Preventing pathogens from infecting the body
  - Prevent transmission of disease
- Highly attractive market
- Multiple disease indications



Oral vaccines reduce manufacturing challenges, enhance vaccine uptake & can create mucosal immunity

## Mass Vaccination

Pandemic has shown injections cannot give global protection

## No needles

Needle phobia has been shown to reduce vaccine uptake

## Easy Administration

Healthcare staff not needed

## Antigenic Drift

Prime boost approaches can give cross antigen specificity

## Vaccine Hesitancy

People are more willing to take an oral product

## Cold Chain

Easy distribution and enhanced stability profile



# Artificial Intelligence – revolutionising drug discovery

Pharmaceutical AI business is “heating up”

50% of global healthcare companies will implement AI strategies by **2025**

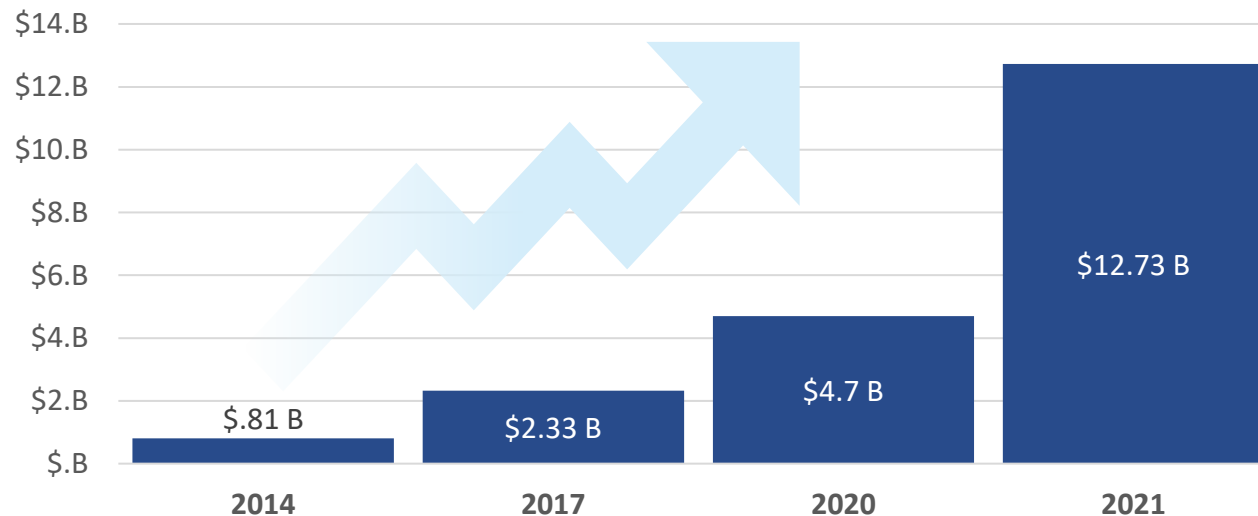
Investment in AI increase of **400% 2020 vs 2021**



*AI-designed molecules have the potential to leapfrog traditionally developed drugs on their way toward human testing*



## Investment in pharmaceutical AI



**Sanofi Joins AI Gold Rush in €4.6B Drug Discovery Pact with Exscientia**

11/01/2022 -



**FINANCIAL TIMES**

**Investors bet on AI start-ups to turbocharge drug development** Hannah Kuchler and Clive Cookson in London JUNE 11 2022

**Artificial Intelligence: A Road to Faster and Better Drug Discovery?** 28/09/2021 -



# Artificial Intelligence Drug Discovery Programme

Using AI to identify drug targets quicker & more cost effectively than previously possible

**Ground breaking**  
innovation



**First time**  
human challenge data  
analysed using AI\*



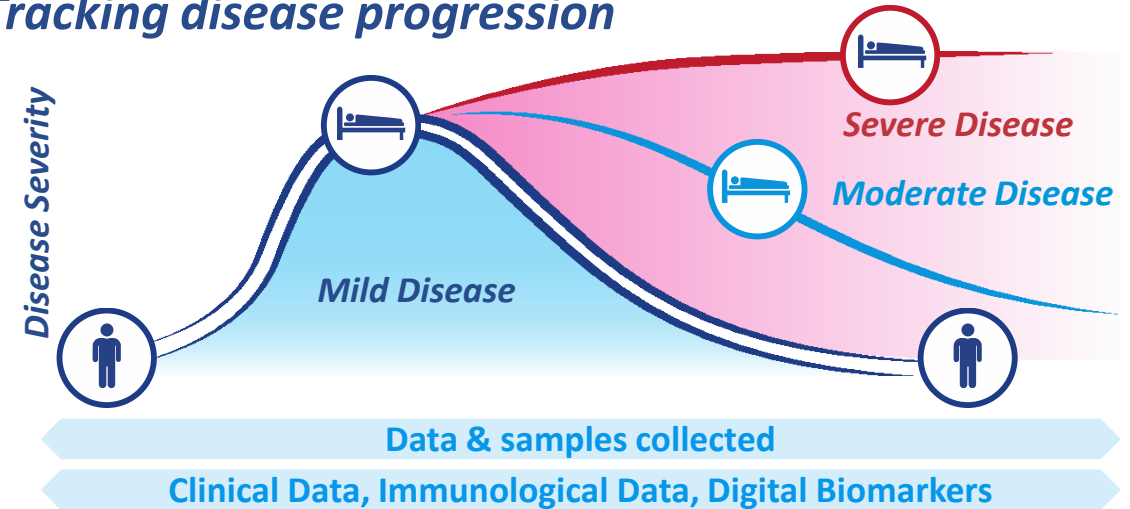
**Prioritise drugs**  
with existing Phase I  
safety data – reducing  
spend and risk



**Identify drugs**  
that are more likely  
to succeed



## Tracking disease progression



## Influenza

- Deal signed with CytoReason – March 22
- To identify new drug targets
- CytoReason work with 5/10 top global pharma including Pfizer, Roche, Sanofi
- **Outputs expected in H1 2023**



## RSV

- Deal signed with OneThree Biotech – Feb 22
- Identify new drug targets & treatments
- Stage 1 completed ✓
- **Outputs expected in H2 2022**



# Key Upcoming Milestones & Opportunities

Multiple value inflection points in 2022 & beyond

## **POLB 001**

LPS challenge trial commencement imminent

Data expected before year end 2022 – monetisation commences

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## **POLB 002**

Development plan underway

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## **POLB 003**

Complete in-licence & evaluation of 5 other vaccine programs

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**Oral Vaccine Delivery Platform** - Development plan underway

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**RSV AI Drug Programme** - Outputs expected in H2 2022

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**Influenza AI Drug Programme** - Outputs expected in H1 2023

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**Non-dilutive funding** - Applications progressing

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**IP Portfolio** - Continuing to expand & strengthen

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# Appendix

AIM: POLB  
OTCQB: POLBF

# Experienced Leadership Team



**Cathal Friel**  
Chairman

- Co-founder & Chairman of Open Orphan plc
- Co-founder & shareholder in Amryt Pharma plc; leading London & Nasdaq orphan drug company
- Established Raglan Capital in 2007
- Founder & Chairman of Fastnet Oil & Gas plc which IPO'ed 2012
- Co-founder of Merrion Stockbrokers in Dublin in 2001



**Jeremy Skillington**  
CEO

- 19 years global industry experience: US, UK, Germany & Ireland
- BD & employee #3 at Inflazome. Sold to Roche in 2020, €380M + milestones; significant ROI to investors. Developing treatments for inflammatory diseases
- BD at Genentech (USA), Ethris (Germany). Co-founded & CEO of TriMod Therapeutics
- PhD in Biochemistry NUI Galway & Post-Doc at UC San Francisco



**Ian O'Connell**  
CFO

- Financial professional with healthcare & public markets experience
- Co-founder, VP Corp Dev & Board Observer at Open Orphan - led acquisition of hVIVO plc & RTO of Venn plc
- Worked with Cathal Friel & Amryt's senior management to establish Amryt Pharma plc
- Corporate finance at both Raglan Capital & Deloitte
- Member of Chartered Accountants Ireland



**Carol Dalton**  
VP IR & PR

- Co-founder & VP Investor Relations & Public Relations at Open Orphan plc & Poolbeg Pharma plc
- Managed multiple funding rounds of in excess of £47m
- Managed & maximised Open Orphan's worldwide media coverage in 2020
- Senior Associate at Raglan Capital
- BSc in Nutraceuticals with a focus on antimicrobial resistance



**Patrick Ashe**  
Non-Executive Director

- >30 years of experience in pharma & biotech
- BD at **Elan** plc for 16 years
- Co-founder and BD lead at Athpharma, AGI Therapeutics & Vidara
- BD at Horizon Therapeutics following acquisition of Vidara



**Prof Luke O'Neill**  
Non-Executive Director

- Co-Founded Inflazome which was acquired by Roche in 2020 for €380m + milestones
- World-renowned immunologist & Chair of Biochemistry in the School of Biochemistry & Immunology at Trinity College Dublin
- Fellow, Royal Society & Royal Irish Academy Gold Medal for Life Science



**Eddie Gibson**  
Non-Executive Director

- 24 years' experience leading biopharma organisations
- Led many major European launches and creation & implementation of global access plans many therapy areas including virology
- Founder of Wickenstones, pharma market access consultancy





# Experienced Team to Execute

## Additional team members



### CMO

- Industry leading CMO
- Expert in designing and implementing clinical trials
- Over 20 years experience in pharma & biotech with drug development focus
- Clinically experienced medical doctor
- Previously CMO for North American Nasdaq listed biotech company



### Liam Tremble

#### Clinical Operations Project Manager

- BSc honours degree in Immunology, Masters in Translational Biology
- PhD on the role of the immune system in melanoma
- Joined hVIVO 2020, key strategist in Volunteer Delivery and Clinical Science Group departments



### Alan Bell

#### Clinical Development Project Manager

- 14+ years experience in clinical development for Phase I-III drugs
- Published in inflammation pathway analysis, associated biomarkers
- Qualifications in Clinical Physiology, Respiratory Medicine, Human & Clinical Pharmacology



### Ross Crockett

#### Financial Controller

- Extensive experience in senior finance positions in public listed companies incl. Amryt Pharma plc, Cove Energy plc, Fastnet Oil & Gas plc & Orogen Gold plc
- Member of Chartered Accountants Ireland



## Initial Scientific Advisory Board Members



### Elaine Sullivan, PhD

- CEO of Dargle Therapeutics & Executive Chairman of Keltic Pharma
- 25 years of international experience working in Pharma and Biotech including as VP of Global External R&D at Eli Lilly
- Raised \$100m for Carrick Therapeutics as Founder
- NED at Open Orphan plc, IP Group plc, Active Biotech AB and Supervisory Board at Evotec AG



### Prof Luke O' Neill

- Co-Founded Inflazome which was acquired by Roche for €380m in 2020
- World-renowned immunologist and Chair of Biochemistry in the School of Biochemistry and Immunology at Trinity College Dublin
- Fellow, Royal Society & Royal Irish Academy Gold Medal for Life Science



### Daniel F. Hoft, MD, PhD

- Director of the Division of Infectious Diseases, Allergy & Immunology at Saint Louis University (SLU) School of Medicine
- Principal Investigator of SLU's Vaccine & Treatment Evaluation Unit, one of nine NIH centres
- 32 years experience in immunology and infectious disease





# Booming Infectious Disease Market

Vaccines, Therapeutics, Diagnostics

Market expected to exceed \$250bn by 2025  
Big Pharma seeking products



**2021 forecast: COVID-19 brings infectious disease R&D out of the wilderness** Dec 22, 2020

**Bill Gates says preventing next pandemic will cost \$1 billion a year** June 2022



**There will be another pandemic, infectious disease experts say.** June 2, 2022

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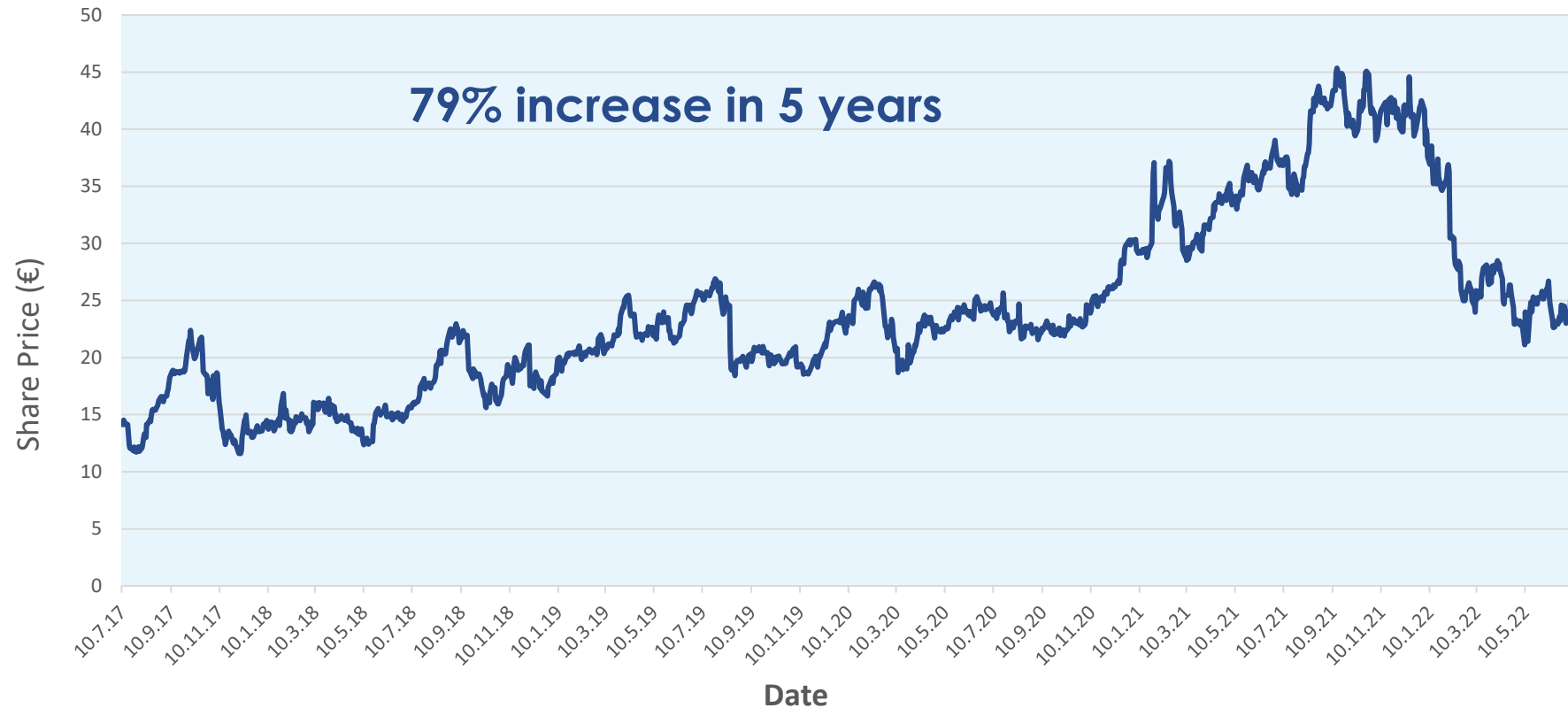
**White House seeks \$65B to prepare for future pandemics in 'Apollo'-like effort**

# Capital Light & Early Monetisation – a model that works

The only other company with a similar model:



- Roots as a CRO, brings assets through Phase I & II
- Out-licence / partner with Big Pharma for significant upfronts + milestones + royalties



## Evotec licence to Takeda

Significant upfront + \$160m milestones per product + royalties, March 2021

**RNA targeting**

## Evotec collaborate with Novo Nordisk

Significant upfront + €150m development milestones per product + royalties + sales milestones, Aug 2020

**Kidney Disease**

## Evotec collaborates with Pfizer

Significant upfront + development & sales milestones, Sept 2015

**Fibrosis**

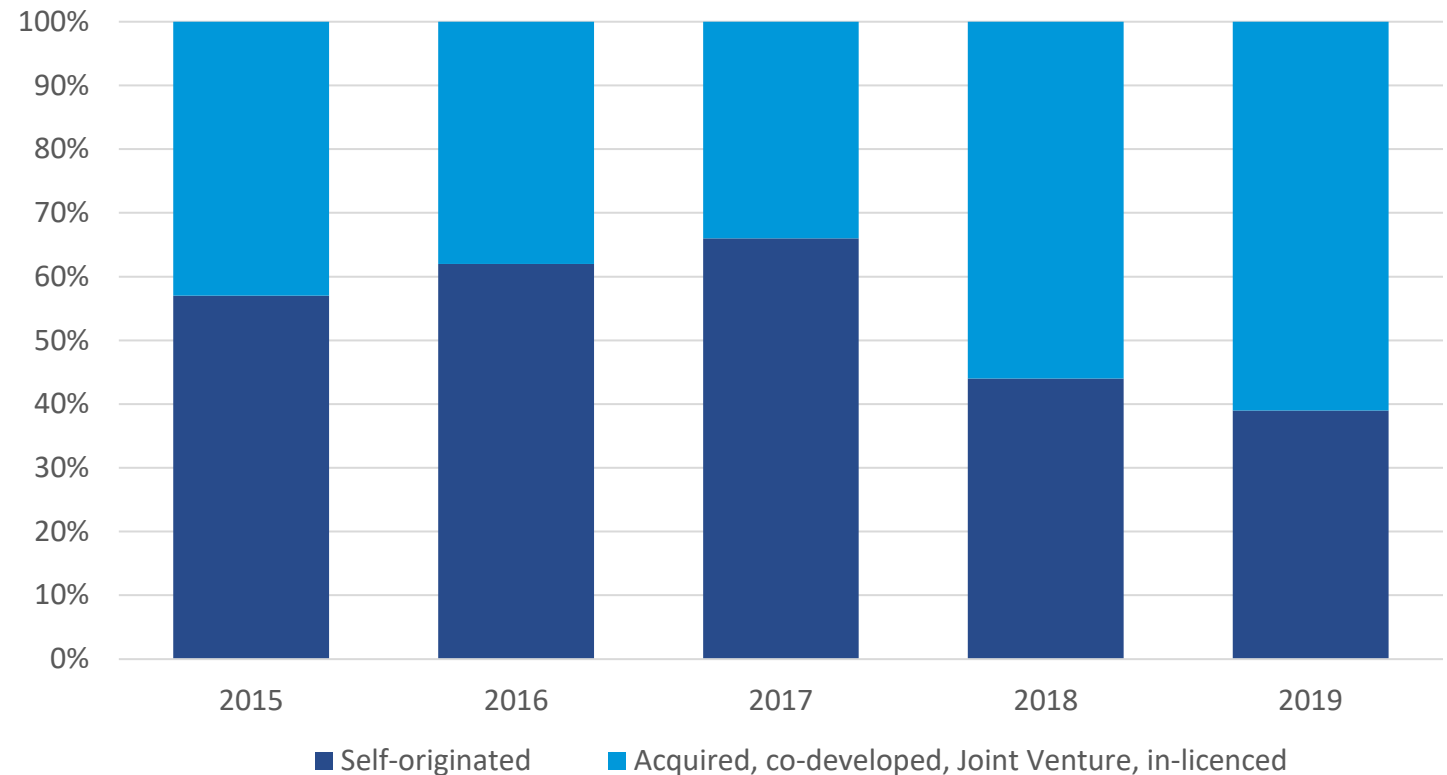
# Capital Light & Early Monetisation Model

**Big Pharma are looking to in-licence infectious disease products**

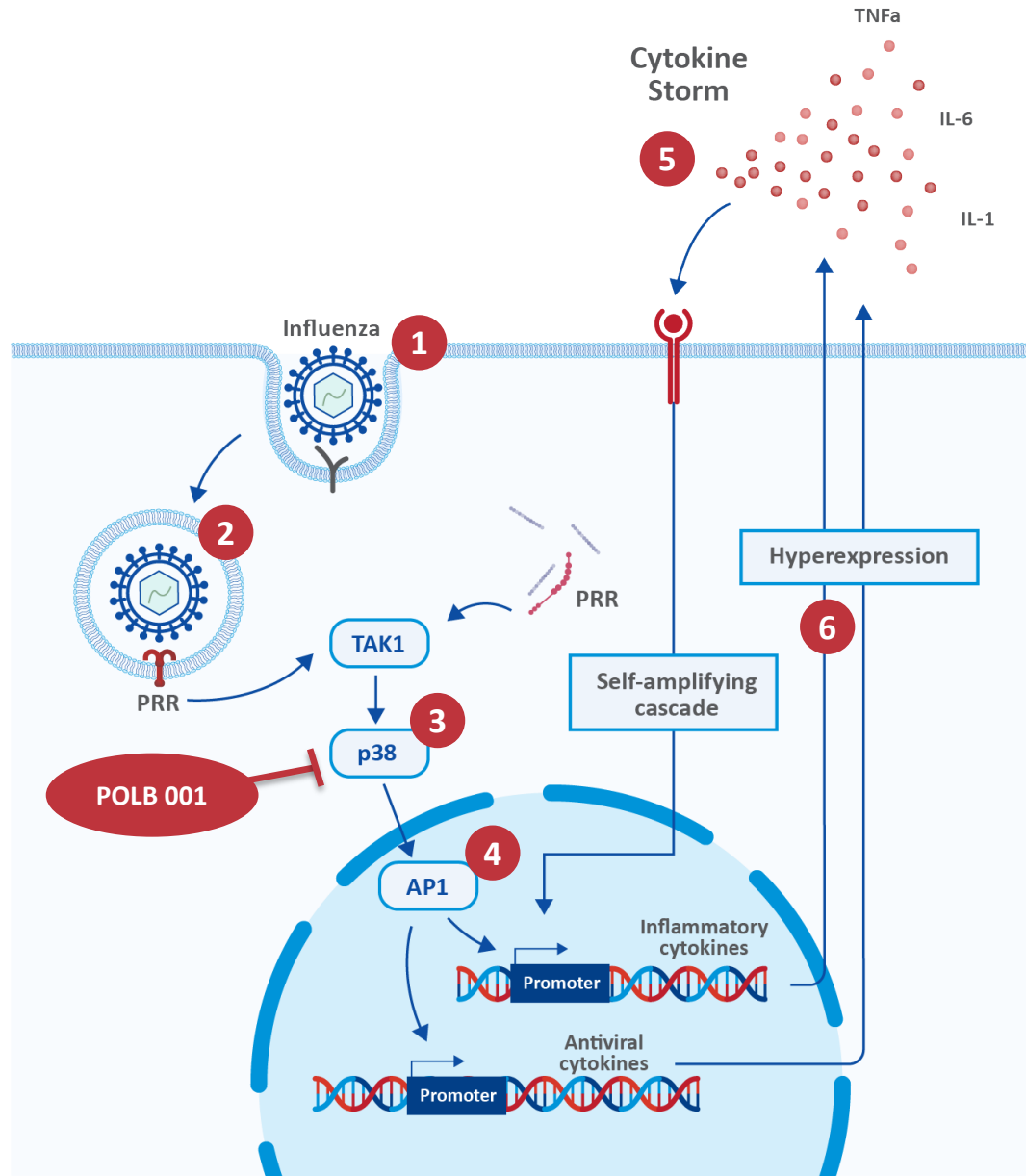
**More deals, less in house development**

The trend for sourcing clinical candidates via in-licensing, acquisition or co-development is continuing to expand

## Pharma developing less products in house



# POLB 001 – Mechanism of Action

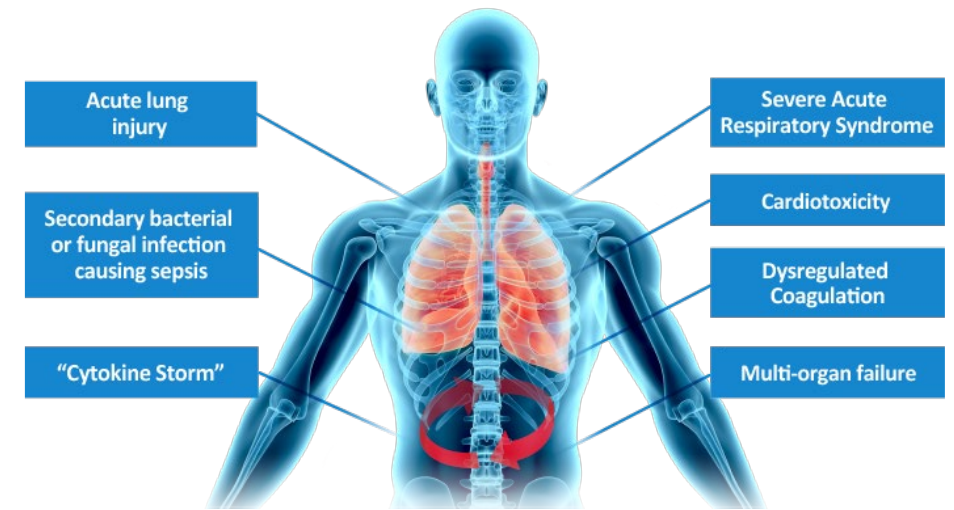


- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>1</b> Influenza virus infects cells of the respiratory tract   | <b>4</b> A high viral burden can activate hyperexpression of cytokines  |
| <b>2</b> Pattern recognition receptors are activated by endosomal and cytoplasmic viral antigens  | <b>5</b> Inflammatory cytokines act to self-amplify expression  |
| <b>3</b> A signalling cascade involving p38 MAP Kinase results in activation of DNA promoters regulating the expression of inflammatory and antiviral cytokines | <b>6</b> A positive feedback loop results in a cytokine storm, also known as hypercytokinaemia that can cause severe tissue damage including ALI and ARDS |

# POLB 001 – Ideally Suited as a Severe Influenza Therapeutic

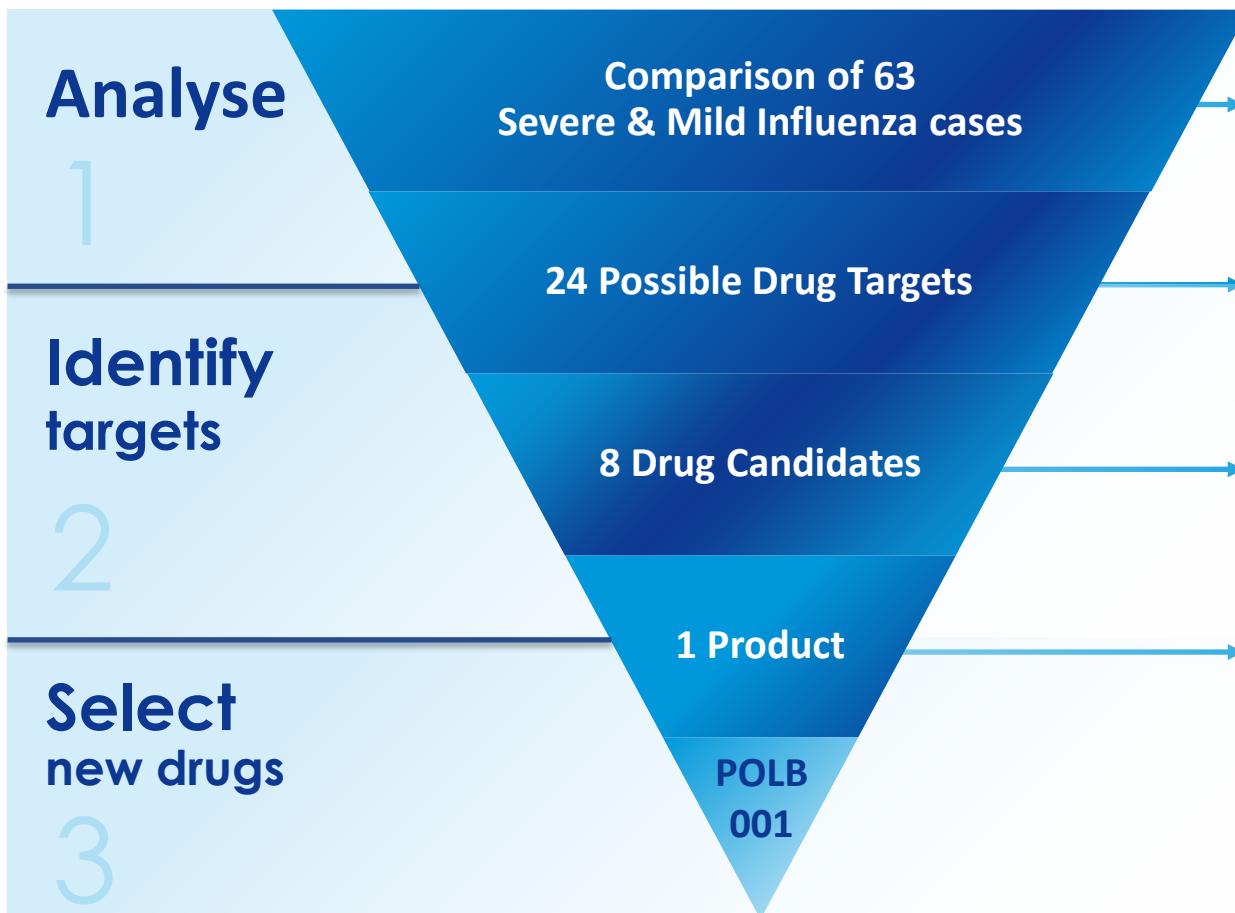
## *What is p38 MAP Kinase?*

- **Central role in regulation of pro-inflammatory signalling** networks, cytokine synthesis in immune cells, and inflammatory diseases<sup>1</sup>
- **Responsive to stress stimuli**<sup>2</sup> such as inflammatory cytokines
- **Inhibition shown to effectively alleviate inflammatory diseases**<sup>3</sup> (e.g. arthritis)
- Our data shows an unexplored relationship between p38 MAP Kinase and pathogenic immune responses associated with severe Influenza, that has the potential to reduce adverse outcomes



**Severe Influenza can cause life changing injuries**

# Unique Data & Samples Identified POLB 001



- Samples taken from patients with severe Influenza were compared against human challenge study subjects with 'mild' Influenza
- This work identified 24 potential molecules that play a role in Influenza severity, with p38 MAPK being the most important
- 40 p38 MAPK inhibitors were identified, and 8 were short-listed for detailed analysis
- Based on its superior performance and advantageous licensing terms, POLB 001 was chosen as the best candidate to take forward

Poolbeg Pharma's potential integration of **Artificial Intelligence ('AI')** into our licenced databanks will accelerate and provide additional power to this discovery tool



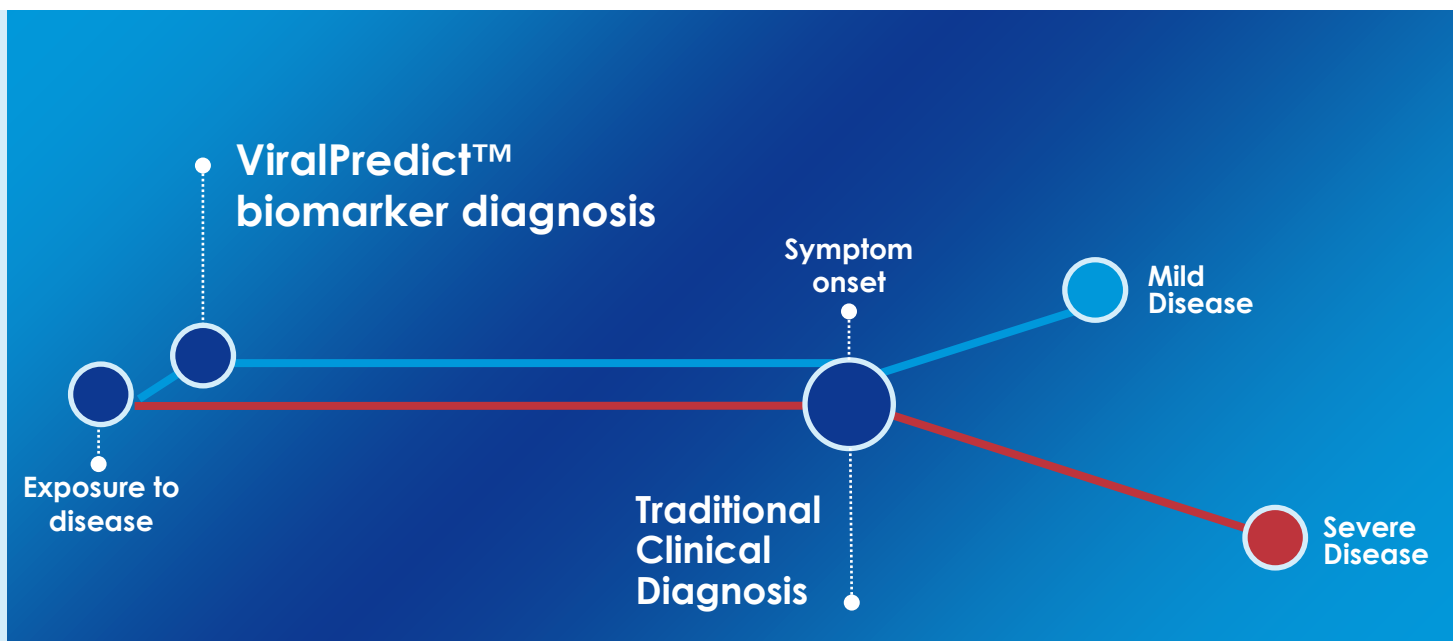
# ViralPredict™ Biomarker Platform for Predicting Severe Disease

Potential to transform the way infectious diseases are treated, opportunity to licence this tool to Big Pharma  
Further patent applications submitted – October 2021

## ViralPredict™ Biomarker Diagnostics vs Traditional Diagnosis of Disease

### Advantages

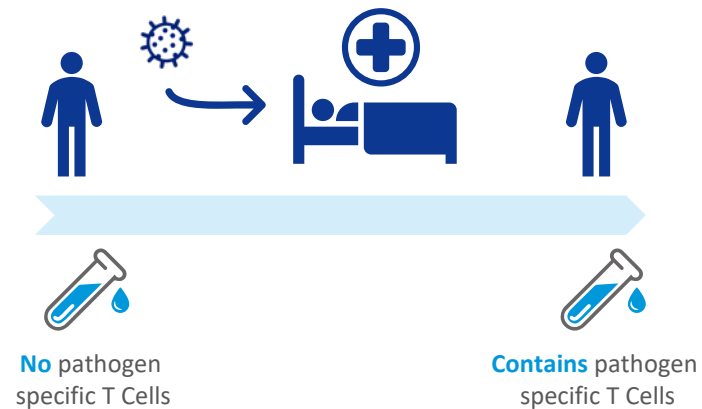
- ✓ Identify severe disease before it is symptomatically visible
- ✓ Triage patients based on predicted disease severity
- ✓ Increases window for effective treatment where early intervention is crucial, e.g. Influenza. i.e. 48hr window of efficacy for many antivirals



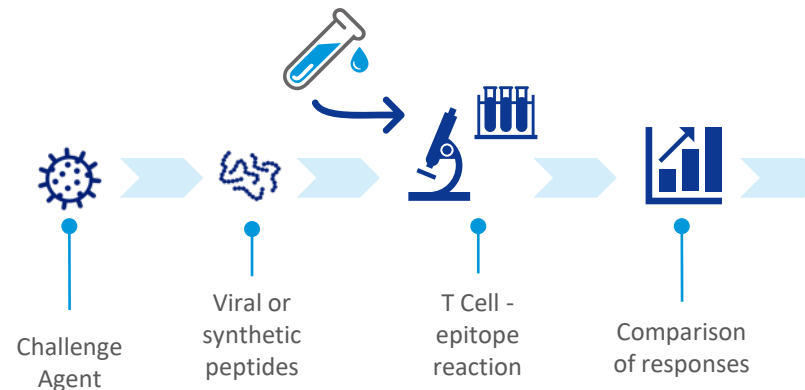
# Unique Vaccine Discovery Platform

Harnessing the human challenge model to discover new vaccines

## Step 1. T Cell Generation



## Step 2. Vaccine Discovery



### What is an Epitope?

- Part of a pathogen that the immune system recognises
- It is the smallest unit of a molecule required to engage the immune system
- Effective vaccines require effective epitopes

Identification of epitopes that can generate robust immunity

Significant value in vaccine design and discovery platforms



Mkt Cap c. \$4.5bn



Mkt Cap c. \$68bn



Mkt Cap c\$480m



Mkt Cap c. \$41bn

AIM: POLB  
OTCQB: POLBF



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