

Stock Data

Share Price: 29.50p
Market Cap: £48.9m
Shares in issue: 165.9m

Company Profile

Sector: Healthcare
Ticker: DVRG
Exchange: AIM

Activities

DeepVerge plc ('DeepVerge', 'DVRG', 'the Group'), (formerly Integumen plc) is a vertically integrated business, collaborating technology platforms with partners in artificial intelligence, clinical research, water technologies, medical devices and life science. These collaborators are building their own technology on top of the Labskin AI backbone. Labskin allows skincare, healthcare, pharmaceutical manufacturers and cosmetic companies to test their products on human-like skin in a real-world environment with full access to multiple state-of-the-art partner technologies.

Group website: www.deepverge.com

Share price performance from 6 Oct.2020



Source: [LSE](https://www.lse.com)

Past performance is not an indication of future performance.

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DeepVerge plc

DeepVerge has announced breakthrough interim analysis that demonstrates its ability to host the SARS-CoV-2 virus on [Labskin](#)-cloned human skin microbiome. This is highly significant in the respect that to date society has been forced to depend on anecdotal or theoretical evidence (from the [World Health Organization](#) ('the WHO') and various health agencies) to determine how infectious skin is, as humans [touch different surfaces](#) and [each other](#). The body of research, protocols and methods now created on Labskin while utilising the real coronavirus, offers formal confirmation and sets necessary standards for oversight testing across a broad range of sanitisers, skin and health care products. The study is now being extended to further investigate behaviours of COVID-19 on skin and enable testing on anti-viral and dental products. Assuming its successful completion, this could rapidly and economically provide scientific evidence that formally backs-up any product claims to kill or address risk of transmission of the virus (or its mutations) without first having to expose human volunteers to it through clinical trials. Given the anticipated post-Pandemic focus on such claims across a multitude of personal and household products, together with strict governmental oversight of all-such related labelling, DeepVerge appears to have once again utilised its unique skillset and technological abilities to identify and prospectively satisfy a long-term, high margin opportunity within mass markets desperate for reassurance that they can return to some form of 'normality'.

Real-world clones of the human skin microbiome

Labskin scientists, in partnership with the University of Aberdeen through which they gain access to a [SARS-CoV-2 virus Category 3 laboratory](#), have successfully populated and maintained the SARS-CoV-2 virus on skin models upon which various household chemicals, anti-viral, skin and health care products etc, can be applied. Through this the effect on the microbiome itself, as well as the product's efficacy at killing the virus over different periods of time, can be tested. So far, the study has specifically investigated the virus' transmissibility from surfaces to airways by measuring its viability when recovered from surface(s) to skin and skin to skin. It also examined what the application of different sanitisers to the skin actually does to COVID-19, along with reduction of titre and/or virulence. Beyond this, it also reviewed ability of the virus to activate innate immune response on human living tissue (using the Labskin model) and the period it can survive there.

The results validated Labskin's ability to provide access to real-world clones of the human skin microbiome, while removing the risk of transmission of the virus to human volunteers. For the first time, users will potentially be able to safely, rapidly and economically test their products, ingredients, treatments and therapies on SARS-CoV-2 and possibly other dangerous viruses/pathogens in real-world environments, following which labelling authorisation could be formally granted.

Extending the Study

The next stage of the investigation will examine the viability of the coronavirus when transferred as full particles from plastic and metal surfaces to a laboratory grown human skin model and the potential risk for infection through the skin itself. It will also further investigate the ability of SARS-CoV-2 to activate innate immune response, its reproductive capability and the duration over which it remains viable and infectious.

The wealth of laboratory reference data generated, potentially supported by DeepVerge's AI and analytic capabilities, is expected to assist the Group's gaining of a greater understanding of process and means by which coronavirus is able to so efficiently spread across the globe.

Opportunities created through the ongoing health crisis

Today's news further highlights DeepVerge's ability to create value through the timely utilisation of its different skillsets, technologies and international reach, along with management teams that are 'switched on' to the prospective long-term opportunity offered through the ongoing health crisis. It has already demonstrated an ability to leapfrog giant corporations with its development of user-friendly, real-time COVID-19 detection and alert systems (such as [Microtox BT](#) and [Microtox PD](#)), identifying products that hold potential to become embedded within the daily routine of global populations desperate to return to some sort of 'normality'. Indeed, DeepVerge's ability to adequately service the overwhelming international demand it prospectively faces may become the most significant challenge going forward as it seeks to satisfy the potential being presented across its expanding range of unique, high-margin opportunities.

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