N4 Pharma plc

N4 Pharma and Silicon Valley-based SRI International ('SRI') have entered a research collaboration agreement ('the Agreement') designed to progress development of preclinical products capable of overcoming barriers that prevent intracellular delivery of large molecule biotherapeutics. SRI is a high reputation not-for-profit scientific research institute, that was originally founded by the trustees of Stanford University in 1946 and today comprises c.1500 professional staff. Its Biosciences division has supported the advancement of >200 drugs to clinical trials. Providing significant validation for Nuvec®, N4P's unique novel silica nanoparticle delivery technology, the Agreement will utilise SRI's proprietary FOX Three Molecular Guidance system™ ('MGS') platform with a view to advancing development of N4P's nucleic acid-based therapies. Should combination of the two technologies in due course open new commercial potential, N4P and SRI will work together to identify, develop and pursue related business opportunities.

SRI Biosciences has advanced >200 drugs to clinical trials

SRI operates across a wide range of technical and scientific disciplines to discover and develop groundbreaking products and technologies, with a view to bringing new innovations and ideas to the marketplace. Its SRI Biosciences division integrates basic biomedical research with drug/diagnostics discovery, along with preclinical and clinical development. The team has advanced more than 200 drugs to clinical trials, of which 25 have commercialised. Its focus is on novel platforms and programs in a variety of therapeutic areas targeting high unmet medical needs. It collaborates with a broad range of partners from small and virtual biotechnology companies to top 10 pharmaceutical companies and other leading industry partners.

SRI's FOX Three Molecular Guidance System

The FOX Three Molecular Guidance System uses proprietary procedures to identify unique peptide delivery agents. Such MGSs are then delivered systemically, but target a specific cell type in order to internalise its elected payload. Significantly, when an MGS binds to its identified target, the event triggers rapid cellular uptake of the attached payload and delivers it to subcellular organelles (such as the nucleus, mitochondria, endoplasmic reticulum, Golgi apparatus, etc.) The ability to selectively target specific (i.e., diseased) cells with therapeutic payload while remaining broadly inert in plasma is, of course, a key ambition for next generation medication and has potential to generate significant interest across the wider pharmaceutical industry.

Initially focused on oncology, with molecules targeting a variety of solid tumours, research subsequently expanded to include liquid tumours (leukaemia, lymphoma, myeloma etc.), cardiovascular uses, metabolic applications, and vaccine targets. SRI Biosciences' preclinical library, which now comprises more than 50 MGSs targeting c.20 cell types across more than a dozen cellular locations, continues to expand. Research has demonstrated

Stock Data

Share Price	0.85p
Market Capitalisation	£2.28m
Shares in issue:	268.78m
52 week high/low	2.30p/0.60p

Company Profile

Sector:	Pharmaceuticals
Ticker:	N4P
Exchange:	AIM

Activities

N4 Pharma plc ('N4 Pharma', 'N4P' or 'the Group') is a specialist pharmaceutical company nanoparticle and try developing a novel silica nanoparticle delivery system for vaccines and therapeutics for licensing to pharmaceutical and biotech partners.

www.n4pharma.com

5-year share price performance

Source: LSE

Past performance and forecasts are not a reliable indicator of future results.

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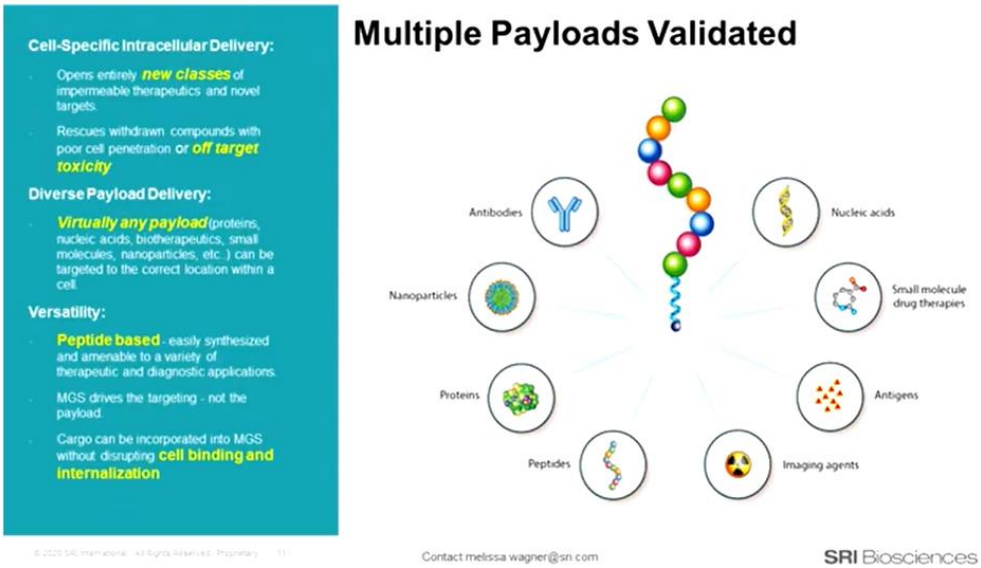
delivery of a wide range of otherwise impermeable biotherapeutics, ranging from protein-based toxins, antibodies and nucleic acids (as siRNA and ASO), to liposomes and nanoparticles. With such cargos not influencing MGS cellular binding, uptake or trafficking, this holds potential for rapid translation into a fully functional, targeted therapy.

SRI has various different FOX Three applications presently in development. In 2020, programmes included modulators of protein-protein interactions, biological catalysts, immunomodulators and generic manipulation. Highlighting success already recorded when dealing with nucleic acids, early programmes demonstrate ability to deliver/successful uptake of siRNA in a cell-specific fashion.

FOX Three Molecular Guidance System Provides Diverse Payload Delivery



Source: SRI Biosciences, Presentation at BIO International Convention (June 2020)

Nuvec® utilises a complementary mechanism of action

The joint research agreement aims for co-discovery of new MSGs for new target cells/intracellular locations for Nuvec® carrying nucleic acid payload defined by N4P.

Key properties of the Nuvec® nanoparticle include its ability to prevent enzymatic breakdown of nucleotides along with a large 'spiky' surface area coupled with polyethyleneimine ('PEI'), that permits it to be heavily loaded with siRNA/DNA/mRNA (or a wide range of plasmids including TNFalpha, IL12, IL2) via a simple mixing process. It protects and delivers each compound/molecule into the same cell and generates the desired antigen protein expression, protein silencing or other required outcome, while featuring strong binding, localised transfection efficiency and tumour growth suppression. Nuvec® nanoparticles are highly scalable with stable formulation.

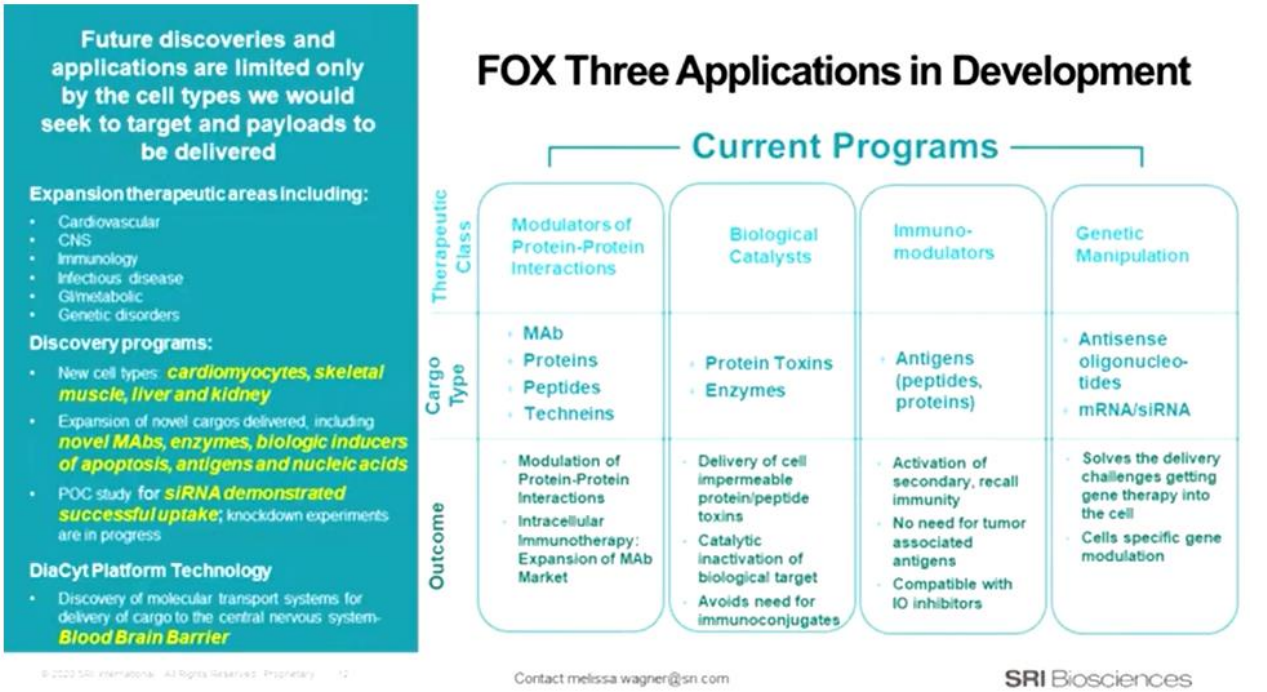
Utilising Nuvec® alongside the targeting abilities provided by MGS, offers potential to significantly enhance the use of nucleotides as they travel to and internalise within target cells via general and dynamin endocytosis. Once internalised, the PEI is seen to alter its charge and begins to disassociate, releasing the payload into the cytoplasm followed by transfection to produce the desired biological effect.

Providing access to potential commercial partners

SRI collaborates with a broad range of partners from small and virtual biotechnology companies to top ten pharmaceutical companies and other leading industry partners. Should a successful combined technology result from today's research initiative, this new relationship prospectively presents unparalleled access to a wide range of commercial partners for N4P.

While today's announcement does not disclose any possible funding commitment and/or ownership/access rights to science jointly developed, the collaboration potentially marks an exciting new chapter for N4P. Further updates covering such details are expected as work progresses, alongside news from the Group's other work streams including oral applications of Nuvec® and the development of ECP105 for an orphan indication with recent acquired Nanogenics.

FOX Three Molecular Guidance System Solves Gene Therapy Delivery Challenges



Source: SRI Biosciences, Presentation at BIO International Convention (June 2020)

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