Borderless innovation: why is it needed and how do we get there? Tom Crabbe, External Solutions UCB

PRISME Forum, TECH MEETING 20.11.2014



# **Agenda**

#### Introduction

• Drug discovery – collaboration has always been a vital ingredient

#### **Borderless innovation**

- What is it and why is it necessary
- How do we get there?

## **Conclusions**

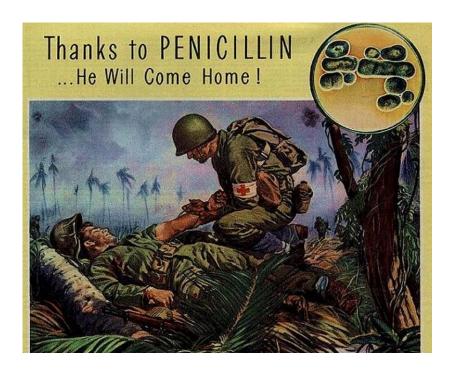


# **Collaborative drug discovery**

**Lessons from history** 

#### Penicillin 1928 - 1946

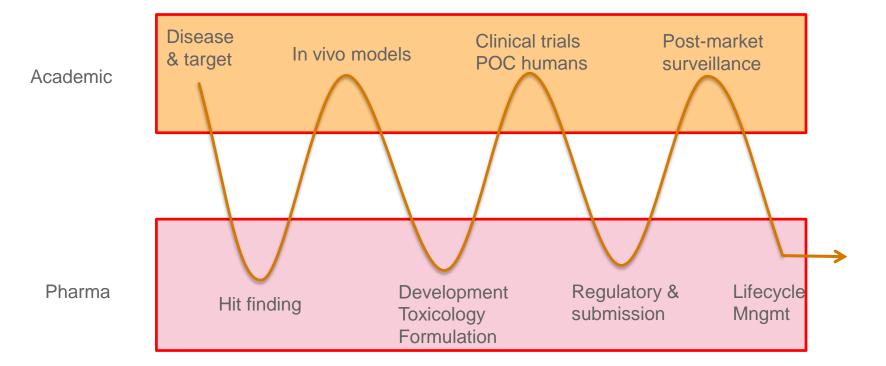
- Different teams bring different skills
- Discovery is only the first step
- An unmet need is the greatest spur to innovation





# Drug discovery has long been a partnership

3<sup>rd</sup> box in the middle - academic/spin-out, outsourcing, consortia





# **Open innovation**

UCB NewMedicines™ Technology Platform Access Programme technology.accessantibody@ucb.com



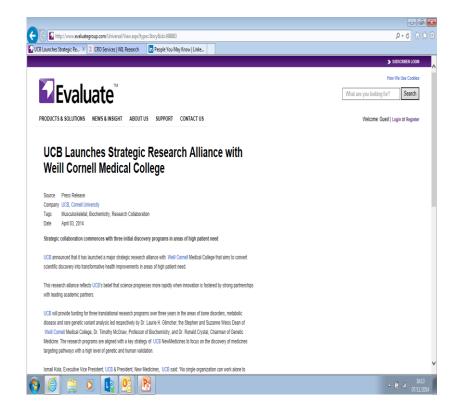


## Collaborators need tech solutions to function

## Several topics for discussion at PRISME

#### **UCB/Weill Cornell Medical College**

- Data sharing and security
- IP
- Visualization of concepts/prototypes
- Alliance Management





## **Borderless innovation**

A definition

## Innovation that is not held back by:

- distance
- our tendency to want to work in a set way
  - the "human factor"
  - Pharma imperialism

## Are we there yet?



## We can share data and ideas across oceans but....

Working together in the lab is now rare

#### Observation is being lost from the process of innovation

- Examples from my work at UCB
- Lipases
- SDS-PAGE





## Does the "human factor" stifle innovation?

# cultural differences are not barriers but opportunities

#### **Questions to answer**

- Do we stick with tried and trusted?
- Do we always work with people we relate to?
- Do we work through problems?
- Can tech solutions help us overcome the human factor?





# Will opportunities from cultural differences be realized?

## Statistics do not help us answer this

#### University World News Jan 2014

 2010 - 5.5 million first degrees awarded in science and engineering worldwide

China 22%

USA 10%

- 1991-2011 Chinese students accounted for 27% of overseas students awarded doctorates in science and engineering from leading research universities in the United States
- 2002-12 researchers in the US authored 48% of the world's top 1% of cited papers

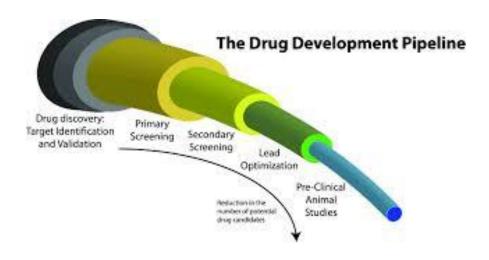




# Pharma imperialism

Imperialism: a policy of extending a country's power and influence through colonisation, use of military force, or other means

- Borderless innovation requires old models of invention to be constantly challenged
- Pharma must reduce their control and influence for drug discovery pipelines to flow again





## **Conclusions**

#### Now, more than ever, collaboration in drug discovery is the way forward

- Open innovation models are common at the early phases of drug discovery
- Tech solutions that enhance collaborations should also be shared

#### Have we broken the borders to innovation?

- We must overcome the "human factor" borderless innovation demands this
- We must bring people together in the lab again
- Pharma imperialism must be challenged



# Thanks!

