

# Nanogenics Acquisition

# September 2023



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## Introduction to N4 Pharma plc

- vaccines using RNA
- following the success of the Covid vaccines

nanoparticles to reduce cancer resistance

for existing Nuvec® programme

Pre-clinical stage specialist pharmaceutical company offering Nuvec®, a unique patented silica nanoparticle delivery system, for the reformulation and development of cancer treatments and

Strong market and investor focus on the delivery of RNA therapy,

Funded for proof of concept work investigating dual loaded siRNA

Additional funding raised for acquisition opportunity to broaden participation in this exciting sector whilst maintaining cash resources





# Nuvec® System

The Nuvec® delivery system has unique characteristics compared to existing delivery systems:

> Unique spiky structure to allow binding of siRNA Simple process to load multiple siRNAs onto same nanoparticle Protects siRNA from enzymatic digestion and pH exposure Thermostability – Nuvec® can be dried, stored at room temperature, and reconstituted without degradation No need for expensive cold chain storage Easy manufacture and chemical modification to allow cellular targeting





# Click <u>here</u> to see a video of how Nuvec® works





Nuvec<sup>®</sup> has ability to Deliver both siRNAs to same cell



### Cell Death by siRNA 1

to siRNA => Cell growth Mutated cell still dies if second siRNA in place Single cell resistance can lead to tumour relapse

### Current Nuvec® R&D programme: Dual siRNA in

By dual or mulitple siRNA loading on one particle



treatments

Mutation causes resistance



delayed relapses

### Potentially leading to a reduction in relapse during cancer

Chances of same cell becoming resistant to both siRNA is very slim, fewer or

- small molecules)

specific cells



Combination therapy is the main means of preventing resistance (e.g. antibodies or

siRNAs could knock down two targets on one pathway, or two different pathways

siRNA approach could be a safer and more efficacious alternative

Potential to add targeting elements so Nuvec® can target



### Current R&D: dual loading pre-clinical model

- cell mutation
  - load

  - - do in-vitro work on dual loading
    - In vivo testing of single and double siRNA doses

Test dual loading of Nuvec<sup>®</sup>, with siRNA in a clinically relevant PC9 cancer cell model

Two siRNA compounds to be simultaneously loaded targeting both the epithelial growth factor receptor (EGF-R), to prevent cell growth and B-Cell Lymphoma 2 (BCL-2) to prevent

Loading and characterisation of Nuvec with dual siRNA to determine maximum

In vitro testing of gene silencing and biodistribution in PC9 cells

In vivo testing of preferred formulations using cancer model

To date have shown knockdown of EGF-R siRNA in vitro and cell apoptosis for BCL-2

Next steps complete response curve for BCL-2 knockdown (or other relevant target) and

![](_page_6_Picture_20.jpeg)

### Proprietary delivery technology

### siRNA Therapeutics

- Potential to create additional IP

### 

# NANGENICS Opportunity

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LipTide®: Patented peptide and lipid based delivery system for nucleic acids. Peptide binds payload and targets specific cells Lipid allows for efficient endosomal release into the cell

Proprietary siRNA sequence for reducing fibrosis Delivery of siRNA using LipTide® for treatment after glaucoma surgery

Directors believe this will lead to quick route to clinical trials and platform validation

N4 taken 71.25% economic interest in Nanogenics for £250k investment (reducing to 63.75% on key milestones being hit)

![](_page_7_Picture_18.jpeg)

# The LipTide® delivery platform is a peptide/lipid nanoparticle

![](_page_8_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_8_Picture_2.jpeg)

Peptide core [K]<sub>16</sub> + Payload (80-90%)

![](_page_8_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_8_Picture_6.jpeg)

# (10-20%)

### Target cell binding

Payload binding/core

Spacer

The peptide mediates cell uptake as absence of targeting sequence dramatically reduces cell uptake

LipTide acts like an 'artificial virus'

![](_page_8_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_8_Picture_14.jpeg)

### Glaucoma Commercial Opportunity<sup>2</sup>

- witness over 3.2% CAGR from 2022 to 2028

Growth driven by:

- Increased clinical trials

### **Beyond Glaucoma, Commercial Opportunity**

- such platform and that:

<sup>2</sup><u>https://www.gminsights.com/industry-analysis/glaucoma-treatment-market</u> <sup>3</sup>Hetzler PT 3rd, Dash BC, Guo S, Hsia HC. Targeting Fibrotic Signaling: A Review of Current Literature and Identification of Future Therapeutic Targets to Improve Wound Healing. Ann Plast Surg. 2019 Dec;83(6):e92-e95. doi: 10.1097/SAP.00000000000001955. PMID: 31246672; PMCID: PMC6851445.

<sup>4</sup> Nucleic acid delivery: Are you developing what Big Pharma seeks? By Dr. Daniel Sieiro & Richard A. Brown September 2021

Total Glaucoma Treatment Market size exceeded USD 5.5 billion in 2021 and is expected to

In 2020, more than 75 million people worldwide were affected by glaucoma

Growing prevalence of glaucoma worldwide

Advancements in therapeutic interventions Rising patient pool of geriatric population Increased awareness of eye care / earlier diagnosis

The therapeutic target (MRTF) is linked to additional fibrotic indications including lung and liver<sup>3</sup> Unmet need for non-viral delivery vehicles for ophthalmology and beyond for both RNA and DNA payloads<sup>4</sup>. NanoGenics ECP105 delivery platform, Directors consider LipTide<sup>®</sup> may be one

ECP105 delivers potentially both commercial product and LipTide® platform validation

![](_page_9_Picture_27.jpeg)

### Glaucoma Problem

### The Solution

Surgery (trabeculectomy) is widely used to lower intraocular pressure when pharmaceutical management is unsuccessful. This creates a channel into a reservoir (bleb) underneath the surface of the eye

The natural response of the body is to 'heal' this newly made drain. This fibrosis often leads to failure of the surgery and even with adjunctive anti-fibrotic therapy five year failure rates can be as high as 50%

Repeat surgery to re-introduce the bleb is a common solution

The current preventive measure against the fibrosis is to use, untargeted, cytotoxic anti-fibrotic drugs (Mitomycin C [a chemotherapy drug]) which have a poor safety profile and are used off-label in the US market

Directors consider the development of a breakthrough anti-fibrotic siRNA therapy to improve surgical outcomes and reduce re-admission rates for patients with severe glaucoma; ECP105 = MRTF-B siRNA delivered by the novel peptide delivery platform LipTide® could provide this solution

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# ECP105

ECP105 is designed to enhance glaucoma outcomes postsurgery without toxic side effects

In vitro proof of concept demonstrated siRNA inhibition of proteins related to fibrosis and ophthalmic indications

Positive preliminary data for delivery (siRNA) and efficacy in vivo for prevention of glaucoma surgery failure

The science plan will focus on generating new IP relating to;

Novel bi-species (rabbit/human) siRNA sequences

Formulation methodology/final product formulation/intended use of ECP105

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# ECP105 Preliminary data<sup>5-7</sup>

Following a single subconjunctival administration of LipTide<sup>®</sup> containing a MRTF-B siRNA (ECP105) prototype, MRTF-B LYR);

- MRTF mRNA expression reduced by 30%
- Bleb survival increased from 11 days to 22 days
- standard treatment mitomycin C (MMC)
- Initial *in vivo* data highly promising,
- formulation

<sup>5</sup> Fernando O, Tagalakis AD, Awwad S, Brocchini S, Khaw PT, Hart SL, Yu-Wai-Man C. Development of targeted siRNA nanocomplexes to prevent fibrosis in experimental glaucoma filtration surgery. Mol Ther. 2018;26(12):2812-22. <sup>6</sup> Sanghani, Amisha et al. "Novel PEGylated Lipid Nanoparticles Have a High Encapsulation Efficiency and Effectively Deliver MRTF-B siRNA in Conjunctival Fibroblasts." *Pharmaceutics* vol. 13,3 382. 13 Mar. 2021, doi:10.3390/pharmaceutics13030382 <sup>7</sup> Grover, Davinder S et al. "Historical Considerations and Innovations in the Perioperative Use of Mitomycin C for Glaucoma Filtration Surgery and Bleb Revisions." Journal of glaucoma vol. 29,3 (2020): 226-235. doi:10.1097/IJG.0000000000001438

Immunohistochemistry revealed less scarring versus untreated

A single dose of LipTide with 25ug MRTF siRNA had the same

effect in this in vivo model of glaucoma fibrosis as the current

Need to optimise LipTide particle and siRNA sequence to ensure optimal

Progress to subsequent pre-clinical *in vivo* regulatory safety studies

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![](_page_12_Picture_22.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Figure_24.jpeg)

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- - Developed ECP105 concept
- Dr Simon Newman (Project oversight and strategy)
- vivo studies.

# Nanogenics Scientific Team

Professor Alex Mullen at the University of Strathclyde [UoS] (Formulation PI) 30 years+ of academic experience in parenteral and colloidal drug delivery system development Pharma consultant with extensive experience of being an expert court witness in patent litigation Founder of two pharma start-ups, performing CSO roles and overseeing phase II clinical product development Dr Cynthia Yu-Wai-Man at King's College London [KCL] (In vivo PI) Group Leader and Assistant Professor at King's College London

Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon and glaucoma specialist Experience across in vitro/ in vivo models and clinical trials in glaucoma

Seasoned CSO with over 20-years in drug development Experience across all modalities working with both academia and industry 55 peer-reviewed publications and over 2900 citations

Postdoctoral researchers will be used at UoS to undertake the formulation and in vitro testing and KCL to assist with the key in

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# Use of placing funds

### £300k for initial investment into Nanogenics (£250k investment £50k loan\*)

### Results of successfully completed pre-clinical project (12-15 months) expected to deliver the following:

- Identified optimal lead formulation / siRNA sequence
- Demonstrated in vivo efficacy
- Generated additional / new IP
- FDA pre IND and EMA/MHRA guidance discussions

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Transferred manufacture from manual lab process to GMP-compatible microfluidics platform

Be ready for rapid progress into GLP pre-clinical regulatory safety studies (outsourced CRO)

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### £50k deal costs

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### ECP 105 Next Steps

• Move ECP105 into First-in-Human studies

- In vivo GLP-toxicity regulatory study
- - Developing a SoW
  - compliant, doesn't have to be GMP)
  - designs
  - First-in-Human studies

    - Prepare IB/IMPD
    - MHRA/EMA/FDA meetings/advice
    - Submit CTA

Preparatory work can start on this during our initial 12-months funding

Gathering quotes from leading CROs (CRL/Charles river)

Sourcing components and manufacturing pathway for ECP105 (GMP-

Seeking EMA/FDA advice on pre-clin study and our proposed trial

Transfer manufacture and source components to GMP

Start trial, 6-month dosing with up to a year follow up

![](_page_15_Picture_23.jpeg)

On strength of in vivo PoC data and new IP from the first 12-months work, look for partnering/licencing opportunities for LipTide<sup>®</sup>, ophthalmology first. Consider additional well-designed, low cost, in vivo PoCs to demonstrate LipTide<sup>®</sup> capabilities looking beyond fibrosis (nucleic acid vaccines / CAR-T / airway delivery)

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Strong market and investor focus on the delivery of RNA therapy, following the success of Covid vaccines

Invest at early stage/ attractive valuation, in an siRNA product which meets an unmet clinical need in the growing market of ophthalmology

Opportunity to target other anti-fibrotic markets which are far bigger (liver and lung)

Complementary non-viral delivery technology, LipTide®

Non-viral delivery technologies are high in demand in the gene therapy space

Technical synergies from developing programmes using both delivery platforms

Preclinical and clinical validation will open up third party licencing opportunities for both Nuvec® and LipTide®

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# Thank you info@n4pharma.com www.n4pharma.com

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