



News Release

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University of Hertfordshire partners with Consort Medical – Bespak Drug Delivery Devices to forge the way in pharmaceutical product design methodologies

The University of Hertfordshire has launched a three year Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) with Consort Medical – Bespak Drug Delivery Devices, a global market leader in the development and manufacturing of drug delivery devices.

The KTP will explore the technical and commercial feasibility of applying new tools and techniques to the design of respiratory devices such as Metered Dose Inhalers (MDIs), with the aim of significantly reducing time and cost to take such devices to market.

Darragh Murnane, Professor of Pharmaceutics and Director of Hertfordshire Science Partnership at the University of Hertfordshire, commented: “The University is delighted to partner with Consort Medical – Bespak in this capacity. The purpose of our knowledge exchange initiatives is to provide businesses with additional expertise and resources, whether that be in terms of technology, design or process. This KTP allows us to work with Consort Medical – Bespak in all three of these areas and we’re looking forward to contributing to innovations in this space.”

Mark Knowles, Head of Product Engineering at Consort Medical – Bespak said, “We are proud to engage in R&D with a leading pharmaceutical research university. We hope that the outcomes of this KTP will enable us to further improve our development lifecycle so we can respond even more quickly and efficiently to the everchanging landscape and demands of the drug delivery market and enable us to implement more advanced, intuitive design procedures.”

The KTP, funded by Innovate UK and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, will see KTP Associate and post-doctoral research fellow Dr Ben Thorne based in-house working with Andrew Sapsford, a Principal Development Engineer at Consort Medical – Bepak under the guidance of KTP Supervisor, Associate Professor Stewart Kirton and Head of Pharmaceutical and Regulatory Science and Academic Lead, Professor Darragh Murnane from the University of Hertfordshire. They will provide the expertise and in-depth technical knowledge to drive this research forward, ranging from chemical and mechanical engineering proficiency, to knowledge of the computational methods and predictive data modelling Consort Medical – Bepak want to start employing.

KTPs are part of the University of Hertfordshire's portfolio of business support services, which aim to build collaborations between the institution and businesses to foster innovation and stimulate growth, particularly within the sectors of pharmacology and life sciences technology.

Dr Ben Thorne will be attending DDL 2018 in Edinburgh, UK (12-14 Dec 2018) on behalf of the University of Hertfordshire and Consort Medical and will be available at stand 220 to answer questions relating to the KTP.

ENDS

Notes to Editors

About the University of Hertfordshire:

The University of Hertfordshire is a vibrant, inclusive, campus-based institution with a vision to be internationally renowned as the UK's leading business-facing university. It is innovative and enterprising and challenges individuals and organisations to excel. All courses are underpinned by industry insight and powerful research ensuring our student community of over 24,600 graduates are equipped with the skills and attributes for successful professional lives. The University has excellent progression rates to employment – 96.5% of students are in employment or further study six months after graduating* - and its teaching expertise has recently been awarded the top gold ranking in the Government's Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) 2018. It is one of the top 150 universities in the world under 50 years old, according to the new Times Higher Education 150 under 50 rankings 2018. For more information visit: www.herts.ac.uk

*DLHE 2016/17

About Consort Medical plc

Consort Medical plc is a leading, global, single source pharma services drug and delivery device company. We are at the leading edge of innovation and we are committed to investing in patient, clinician and customer driven innovation to create new treatments, new markets and new opportunities.

Our businesses:

Consort Medical - Bepak is a global market leader in the manufacture of drug delivery devices for pharmaceutical partner companies, including respiratory, nasal, injectables and ocular products, and the manufacture of devices for the point of care diagnostics market. .

Consort Medical – Aesica is a leading provider of finished dose and active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) development and manufacturing services to pharmaceutical partners.

We employ approximately 2,000 people globally of which approximately 1,400 are located in the UK. We have UK facilities in King's Lynn, Cambridge, Nelson, Milton Keynes, Cramlington, Queenborough and Hemel Hempstead, German facilities in Monheim and Zwickau and a facility in Pianezza, Italy.

www.consortmedical.com.

About Innovate UK / Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

This partnership received financial support from the Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP) programme. KTP aims to help businesses to improve their competitiveness and productivity through the better use of knowledge, technology and skills that reside within the UK knowledge base. This successful Knowledge Transfer Partnership project, funded by UK Research and Innovation through Innovate UK, is part of the government's Industrial Strategy.

www.ktp.innovateuk.org