

# Innovate UK

**Results of Competition:** **Viral Vector Manufacturing for Cell and Gene Therapies - Challenge Fund**  
**Competition Code:** **1710\_HLS\_VVM**

**Total available funding is £16m**

**Note: These proposals have succeeded in the assessment stage of this competition. All are subject to grant offer and conditions being met.**

<b>Participant organisation names</b>	<b>Project title</b>	<b>Proposed project costs</b>	<b>Proposed project grant</b>
<b>Cobra Biologics Ltd</b>	Embedding & Securing Commercial Viral Vector Production within a CDMO environment	£5,153,000	£2,576,500
<b>Project description - provided by applicants</b>			
<p>Cell and Gene therapy products are changing the lives of patients receiving treatment as part of early stage clinical trials. There is a clear need for Cobra Biologics, and the UK, to increase capacity and capability to provide a rapid approach for the production of viral vector material to support both clinical trials and commercial in-market supply. This project to support expansion at Cobra Biologics (Keele, UK) will give the UK world leading capabilities for clinical and commercial production of gene therapy viral vectors. The project will form part of a larger investment made by Cobra to enhance the development and the manufacturing the viral vector products in the UK. The resulting capacity and capability enhancements will support existing and new customers' clinical and commercial ambitions, leading to more innovative Gene Therapy medicines reaching patients. Furthermore, it will add to and work with the existing infrastructure in the UK for the translation of these innovative medicines from academic interests to commercial reality. The outcome will be to establish Cobra Biologics, and the UK, as an internationally recognised centre of excellence in the field, and establish commercial viral vector manufacturing capability within the UK.</p>			

**Note: you can see all Innovate UK-funded projects here**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/innovate-uk-funded-projects> Use the Competition Code given above to search for this competition's results

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<b>Oxford BioMedica UK Limited</b>	Oxford BioMedical 2017/2018 lentiviral vector capacity expansion project	£5,996,562	£2,998,281
<b>Project description - provided by applicants</b>			
<p>Oxford BioMedica (OXB) is a company with broad and global market-leading capabilities in terms of development, manufacture and testing of lentiviral vectors for clinical and commercial use. As a platform/product developer OXB pioneered in vivo delivery of lentiviral vectors, and we have several strategic partnerships, such as one with Novartis supporting the development of chimeric antigen receptor (CAR)-T-cell programmes, including Kymriah™ which is the only commercially approved product based on lentiviral vector technology. OXB seeks funding in support of a £6m project to help expand our existing GMP manufacturing capacity in the UK. This project is linked into a broader capacity expansion plan that will lead to increased high value manufacturing activities, together with the commitment to create many more highly skilled jobs. OXB continues to develop technologies based on state-of-the-art platform, manufacturing and testing capabilities, and will use the requested funding to further support our market leading position, ensuring the UK continues to lead in many areas of the development of advanced therapies.</p>			

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