

February 2022

Five Alarm Bio wins £360,000 Biomedical Catalyst grant

Five Alarm Bio is proud to announce that it has won a prestigious Biomedical Catalyst grant from InnovateUK.

Founded in 2016 by three experienced entrepreneurs, Five Alarm Bio is based near Cambridge, UK. We are developing a small molecule approach to boost the body's defence against aging, based on a new understanding of how the chemical damage associated with age accumulates in cells. Anti-aging science has enormous potential. Age-related diseases such as cancer, neurodegenerative diseases are among the leading causes of death and a significant burden on health funding. Five Alarm Bio's technology platform has the potential to target many of these diseases and disabilities of aging.

One of Five Alarm's first goals is to develop its technology as a treatment for chronic wounds. Such wounds cannot heal normally, and cause long-term pain and suffering to patients and substantial cost to healthcare providers. Five Alarm's initial research showed potential of our approach in relatively simple models of how wounds heal *in vitro*, requiring more research before launching into a full development. The Biomedical Catalyst programme at InnovateUK was founded in 2012 to help businesses test and develop innovative health and care projects. InnovateUK funding will bridge this gap, through a grant of £350,000 towards at £520,000 programme that will take Five Alarm's technology towards a clinical product.

Dr. Janette Thomas, CEO of Five Alarm Bio, says "This is a tremendously exciting boost for Five Alarm Bio's science, and a strong validation of its practical potential. Biomedical Catalyst grants are very competitive and we are delighted to be awarded this grant to support our research; [some stuff on how competitive this is and how it validates our approach — I have asked Trove for statistics]."

Innovate UK drives productivity and economic growth in the UK by supporting businesses to develop and realise the potential of new ideas. They fund business and research collaborations to accelerate innovation and drive business investment into R&D. Innovate UK is part of UK Research and Innovation. For more information visit www.innovateuk.ukri.org

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