



Pharmaceuticals



Key Facts and Overview

- North East England is home to the world's leading transnational pharmaceutical companies including GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), Merck Sharp & Dohme (MSD) and Sanofi Aventis contributing one-third of the UK's GDP generated by pharmaceuticals.
- North East England has been issued with the first of only two UK licenses to carry out somatic cell nuclear transfer, at the Life Knowledge Park, a genetic research centre in Newcastle.
- The UK has the world's largest single healthcare delivery organisation in the NHS. A product which is clinically trialled in the NHS and secures a CE mark in the UK can be sold into any EEA market without further regulatory requirements.

Universities

- Academic research in the region includes: Cell biology, pharmaceuticals, genomics, clinical pharmacology and pharmacogenetics, and drug function/action/design.
- Science research at the University of Durham has more impact worldwide than work at any other British university, including Cambridge, Oxford and Imperial College London. It enjoys the most cited number of research and influence of other research according to the Times Higher Education Supplement (THES) in its annual science report in October 2005.
- All departments in the Faculty of Medical Science at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne were awarded either 5 or 5* (Research Assessment Exercise [RAE] 2001) ranking Newcastle third overall in the UK.
- The University of Sunderland has one of the UK's largest pharmacy schools.

Clinical R&D

- Clinical research facilities link medical and translational research in the universities to the clinical excellence of the regional NHS Trust.
- Clinical research is supported by health informatic and project management companies including Sowerby Centre for Health Informatics at Newcastle Ltd (SCHIN), InRotis, Datatrial, Powertrial, a new Biosystems Informatics Institute (Bii), and The Specials Laboratory and Quantum Specials with special mix medicines.

Companies

- **R&D:** Sanofi Aventis, Non Linear Dynamics, Applied Imaging International.
- All departments in the Faculty of Medical Science at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne were awarded either 5 or 5* (Research Assessment Exercise [RAE] 2001) ranking Newcastle third overall in the UK.
- **Full multinational/packaging/distribution:** GSK, Sanofi-Synthelabo, P&G, Avecia.
- Key companies are involved GLP/GMP, process design, management and analytic services.

Industry Support

Process Industries

North East Process Industry Cluster (NEPIC)	Membership of over 200 process industries companies in the region. Focused on technical and business development.
Centre for Process Innovation	A response to the need to stimulate applied R&D as an anchor for existing industry and to attract new investment.
Process Industries Centre for Manufacturing Excellence	Tasked with improving productivity within the UK process industries.

Healthcare and R&D

Centre of Excellence for Life Sciences (CELS)	Drives the life science and healthcare economy by identifying and exploiting market opportunities with commercial potential.
BioNE ² t	A network which supports the development of post-genomic technologies and research linking directly to industry.



Finance

There are many sources of finance and venture capital available to companies in the region. Unique in North East England is **Nstar** set up by One NorthEast. It focuses on high risk venture capital, and it partners with the commercial venture capital community to invest in new technology spun out of universities or created within the small to medium sized enterprise market. Nstar can create tailored supply chains for large corporations through this process. Nstar has total funding of £60m (\$108m) split into Proof of Concept Fund and Co-investment Funding.

Market Access

The Model below demonstrates how all of the expertise and support organisations place North East England in a unique position to support companies in the commercialisation of research and getting new products to market. At the centre of the process is the Investment & Aftercare Team that will sit with you to understand your own individual requirements and come back with a tailored investment solution to include some or all of the elements below. From here in the UK or offices in North America, China, Japan, Korea, Australia, Norway and Germany, the team will help you get your products and services into the market.



Case Study - Avecia

Avecia became Europe's largest privately-owned speciality chemical company following a £1.3bn buyout of the former Zeneca Specialities business from AstraZeneca in 1999. Since then, Avecia has been strengthening its core interests of biotechnology and pharmaceuticals and divesting smaller non-core businesses. Over the last three years, more than 300 new highly-skilled jobs have been created at the company's Billingham site in the Tees Valley, following a £70m investment to build one of Europe's largest contract biopharmaceutical manufacturing facilities, including a Regional Selective Assistance grant of £6.5m. The Advanced Biologics Centre (ABC) provides process development and cGMP manufacture of microbially-derived biologics for pharmaceutical companies developing novel compounds for human healthcare products.

Contact details

To discuss the service further, or to receive an initial response to an investment proposal, please make contact by phone, fax, e-mail or post today.

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