



## **The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI)**

and

## **The Northern Ireland Medicines Optimisation Centre (MOIC)**

### **2020 – 2025 Partnership Agreement**

#### **1. Purpose of this Partnership Agreement**

**1.1 To establish a formal partnership under which the ABPI and the MOIC will work together on areas of shared interest over the next 5 years. Through this partnership, both parties will work together to introduce transformative, medicines-related innovations across the Health and Social Care system. The shared goal of both parties is to deliver ‘triple win’ benefits to patients, the Service and the economy through more rapid and consistent patient access to innovation, more effective use of HSC resources and increased cross-sector research collaboration.**

#### **2. Background and opportunity**

**2.1 The ABPI and its members contributed actively to the development of the 2015 Matrix Report on Life Sciences, the 2016 NI Life Sciences Strategic Implementation Plan and the 2019 formation of the Health Innovation Research Alliance Northern Ireland (HIRANI). We believe there is a real opportunity for Northern Ireland to become a thriving health and life ecosystem, to the benefit of patients, Health and Social Care and the economy.**

**2.2 Realising the opportunity will depend on stakeholders collaborating more effectively than in the past to scale innovation across Northern Ireland, optimise HSC health data potential and address the long-standing challenge of slow and variable adoption of innovation. The prize for success will be a virtuous circle that delivers significant health and economic benefits from a thriving life sciences ecosystem.**

**2.3 MOIC was set up under the auspices of the Department of Health policy document the Medicines Optimisation Quality Framework describing a medicines optimisation model with quality standards and an innovation and change programme MOIC work can be encapsulated under four main thematic headings namely focusing on the needs of the Northern Ireland population, accelerate the adoption of innovation into practice to improve clinical outcomes and patient experience, build a culture of partnership and collaboration, and make a meaningful contribution to the Northern Ireland economy. In relation to these key themes MOIC sees ABPI as a key partner in delivering on these objectives and the formalising of the current good working relationship is a further positive development bringing enhanced benefits. ....**

**2.4 The ABPI sees MOIC as a key partner in achieving the goals set out in 2.2 above. Building on our long-standing and positive relationship, we therefore now propose a more formal, 5 year partnership, whereby nominated senior ABPI executives will work on shared goals with MOIC leadership and implementation structures.**

2.5 The objective of doing so will be to deliver scalable outputs that result in a step change in the pace and consistency of adoption of evidence-based innovative medicines and associated technologies.

### **3. Benefits**

3.1 Cross-sector partnership has already proved effective in GB at both a regional level (the February 2017 Greater Manchester Memorandum of Understanding) and at a disease-specific level (the December 2017 Diabetes Priority Delivery Workstream with NHS England). In both these cases, while there was significant interest in and goodwill towards collaboration, both industry and NHS stakeholders had previously been frustrated by the time taken to agree individual collaborations, the difficulty in maintaining momentum, and the challenge of aligning system needs with industry offers.

3.2 In its first year of operation, the Manchester MoU resulted in progression of three substantial projects in the fields of Hep C, cancer and cardiovascular disease. These aligned health system needs with industry offers and enhanced Greater Manchester's health data capability.

3.3 In Diabetes, a joint industry/NHS England clinical director team is now focused on progressing only those joint initiatives that address the NHS England national diabetes strategy goals.

3.4 Adoption of a similar process in Northern Ireland between the ABPI and MOIC will ensure that collaboration is focused on where it can add most value in delivering accelerated and consistent adoption of evidence-based innovation.

### **4. Partnership Agreement between ABPI and MOIC – Key Elements**

4.1 The partnership will involve the creation of a plan setting out goals, activities and governance processes for the duration of the partnership. To include:

4.1.1 The establishment of a steering group from both organisations to provide direction and oversight of agreed work programmes.

4.1.2 Creation of a 'Portal' process, whereby MOIC and ABPI members can invite and respond to expressions of interest for progressing existing and future projects with the potential for national scalability

4.1.3 Detailed governance arrangements and time periods for review

### **5. Principles**

5.1 Both parties to this Partnership Agreement seek to deliver measurable improvements in outcomes through effective, trusted partnerships, which will support the adoption of innovation and the most efficient use of public money.

5.2 Collaborations arising from this Partnership Agreement will be in accordance with the following principles:

5.2.1 Rigour – partnership work will be evidence-based and underpinned by transparent governance to ensure collaborations have a firm foundation.

5.2.2 Ambition – a shared goal of driving evidence-based innovation into practice and generating evidence of the impact of innovation on patient outcomes.

- 5.2.3 Transparency – All proceedings undertaken, and the results of all initiatives and collaborations, will be published when complete, subject to respecting commercial in confidence information.
- 5.2.4 Fairness – Initiatives undertaken will be conducted with equality of opportunity and access to all participants, companies and organisations.

**6. Priority Areas for Year 1 Collaboration**

- 6.1 Hepatitis C
- 6.2 TBD

**7. Governance**

- 7.1 Professor Mike Scott, Director, MOIC and Colette Goldrick, Northern Ireland & NHS Engagement Director ABPI, will jointly oversee the establishment of an ABPI-MOIC Partnership Steering Group.
- 7.2 Membership will include: The Department of Health, HSC Board, Public Health Agency, Patient Client Council, HSC Trusts, MOIC.
- 7.3 Both parties will adhere to the ABPI Code of practice for the Pharmaceutical Industry and DH guidance on working with industry

**8. Confidentiality and information governance**



- 8.1 In the course of operation of the Partnership, information may be shared which is commercial in confidence. The ABPI and MOIC undertake to respect this and not to share beyond necessary parties. All parties acknowledge that antitrust regulations will be respected in relation to the sharing of information between commercial organisations and other industry parties.

**9. Review Period**

- 9.1 To be reviewed annually. Next review date October 2021

**10. Signatories**

**This Partnership Agreement is signed on behalf of MOIC and the ABPI by:**

 <p><b>Professor Mike Scott</b>  <b>Director, MOIC</b>  <b>18<sup>th</sup> September 2020</b></p>	 <p><b>Colette Goldrick</b>  <b>Director, Northern Ireland and NHS Engagement</b>  <b>9<sup>th</sup> September 2020</b></p>
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