



Dear friends,

The BioVentureHub is a sharing community. By repurposing and sharing infrastructure, expertise and ideas, we are supporting the sustainable growth of emerging life science companies and the wider healthcare ecosystem. At the same time, the BioVentureHub is generating value for AstraZeneca by exposing AstraZeneca to a wider diversity of science, technology and ways of working.

[The BioVentureHub companies](#) feature a wide range of expertise including intelligent dosing, intelligent implants, immunotherapies, lab automation, data science, 3D cell culture handling, anti-infectives, medical imaging, multicolor microscopy, nanoparticle analysis, healthcare gamification...

In this update, I'd like to share, highlight and zoom in on six recent impressive achievements by companies in the BioVentureHub...

**Intelligent Implants** was granted Breakthrough Device Designation by the FDA earlier this year for its smart orthopedic implants which stimulate natural bone growth and communicate progress to the doctor. In October, the company was awarded EUR 4.5 million funding from the EIC Accelerator - the European Union's flagship innovation program for small and medium-sized companies - and also raised EUR 3 million in investment capital. The plan now is to expand and employ more people in Gothenburg. Read more [in this article](#) by Invest in Gothenburg.

**Cereno Scientific** announced that the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has accepted Cereno's investigational new drug application (IND) for drug candidate CSI. The acceptance of the IND allows Cereno to start the planned Phase II study in patients with pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) at clinical sites in the US. [Read more.](#)

**Alzinova** recently announced the company had received approval from the regulatory authorities in Finland to initiate the first clinical study with the vaccine candidate, ALZ-101, a potential disease-modifying treatment against Alzheimer's disease. The first patient has been recruited into the study... [Read more](#).

**Amferia's** research behind its novel antibacterial material technology has been recognized as one of the top 100 research based innovations of 2021 by the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences. The focus for this year's list is on preparedness for and society's capacity to manage emergencies and crises. The selected research projects are all considered to have significant commercial potential. [Read more](#).

**Antaros Medical's** team of medical imaging experts have now contributed to over 800 peer-reviewed publications. [Read more](#).

**Emotra** reached an agreement to acquire Neurametrix, a US-based company that has been granted Breakthrough Device Designation by the FDA for its data-based technology to rapidly identify and monitor some of our most common neurological diseases. Commenting on the agreement, Daniel Poté, CEO of Emotra said, "Our first acquaintance was through the BioVentureHub. We have since then further developed that into a continuous exchange of information about markets, contacts, and commercial opportunities." [Read more](#).

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### **Three new companies have joined the BioVentureHub**

Since our previous update, three new companies have joined the BioVentureHub. All of them have scientific approaches and/or technology of interest to AstraZeneca. Furthermore, they each add more ingredients and flavours to the smorgåsbord of collaborative innovation we're catalysing in the BioVentureHub:

- [Lucero Bio](#) - developing a technology platform to test 3D cell cultures at scale ([more info](#)).
- [Nanolyze](#) - developing bioanalytical technology to study nanoparticles ([more info\\*](#))
- [Profundus](#) - using space imaging technology to get a clearer view of diseases ([more info\\*](#)).

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### **Also, since our previous update...**

- [Ulrika Edvardsson](#) has joined the BioVentureHub team as our Science Director. Ulrika's main focus will be on catalysing scientific connections between the BioVentureHub companies and AstraZeneca, and with each other.

- Building on AstraZeneca's global [green lab certification program](#), the BioVentureHub is working with My Green Lab to extend the program to companies in the BioVentureHub. Stay tuned for more information!
- We produced an [AZ Talk](#)\* featuring Shalini Andersson and Kajsa Kanebratt from AstraZeneca discussing bioconvergence and bioprinting with Itedale Namro Redwan and Josefine Blell from Cellink.
- We hosted a [webinar](#) where experts from AstraZeneca and Mölnlycke shared insights, learnings and advice intended to help smaller companies navigate payor/reimbursement challenges and to facilitate pricing and market access processes, from both national and international perspectives.
- We have been working closely with AstraZeneca colleagues and our friends at [GoCo](#) to scale up the BioVentureHub “dare to share” culture within the wider GoCo Health Innovation City campus. One concrete outcome is the development of an offer to facilitate the continued growth of BioVentureHub Alumni companies in close proximity within the GoCo campus when they have reached the end of their scale-up journey in the BioVentureHub.

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Thank you so much for your continued support and encouragement. It is sincerely appreciated.

For more information about the BioVentureHub, see the [BioVentureHub website](#) and please follow us on [LinkedIn](#) and [Workplace](#) (AstraZeneca employees only).

Take care and stay healthy!



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\* Internal AstraZeneca link. Only accessible to AstraZeneca employees.