

RACI 2023

R&D of new  
molecules in  
diverse  
therapeutic  
areas



Multiplatform  
biopharmaceutical  
company

## Bacteriophages as Innovative Biopharmaceuticals Medicines: Shaping the Future of Healthcare?

From science  
to innovative  
biopharmaceuticals

**Helena  
Dordio**

**October 2023**



FROM SCIENCE TO  
INNOVATIVE  
BIOPHARMACEUTICALS

# OVERVIEW

1. TechnoPhage
2. Bacteriophages
3. Phage Therapy
4. Phage's History
5. Manufacturing & Formulation
6. Future & Market



# 2005

**Start-up** invested in the  
discovery of phage-  
products

**Clinical-stage biopharma** with  
in house capacity for GMP  
manufacturing of biologics



# 2023

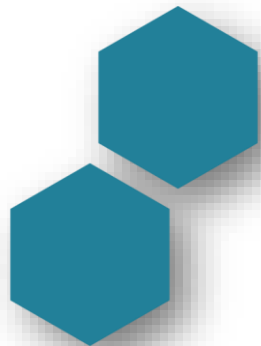
# TECHNOPHAGE

18 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE  
IN BIOPHARMACEUTICALS

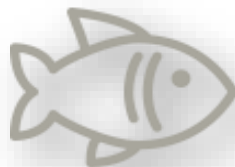


Development of biologics  
from early discovery into  
clinical trials, for unmet  
medical needs.

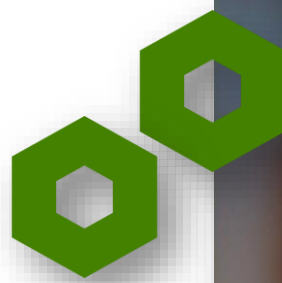




THREE  
**TECHNOLOGICAL  
PLATFORMS** IN THE  
SERVICE OF INNOVATIVE  
MEDICINES



# OUR CORE THERAPEUTIC PIPELINE



## INFECTION



TP-102  
TP-122  
TP-164

## NEUROSCIENCES



TA-111  
TA-191  
TZ-161  
TZ-113

## OPHTHALMOLOGY



TA-182  
Eysulin





# NEW LINE OF **NON-THERAPEUTIC** PRODUCTS

## BIOMARKERS



TA-111C  
TA-211

## OTHER PRODUCTS



C1



# PROBLEM

**Unmet medical need**

Condition for which there exists no satisfactory method of diagnosis, prevention or treatment.

**Serious conditions**

Disease or condition associated with morbidity that has substantial impact on day-to-day functioning.

**Drug delivery**

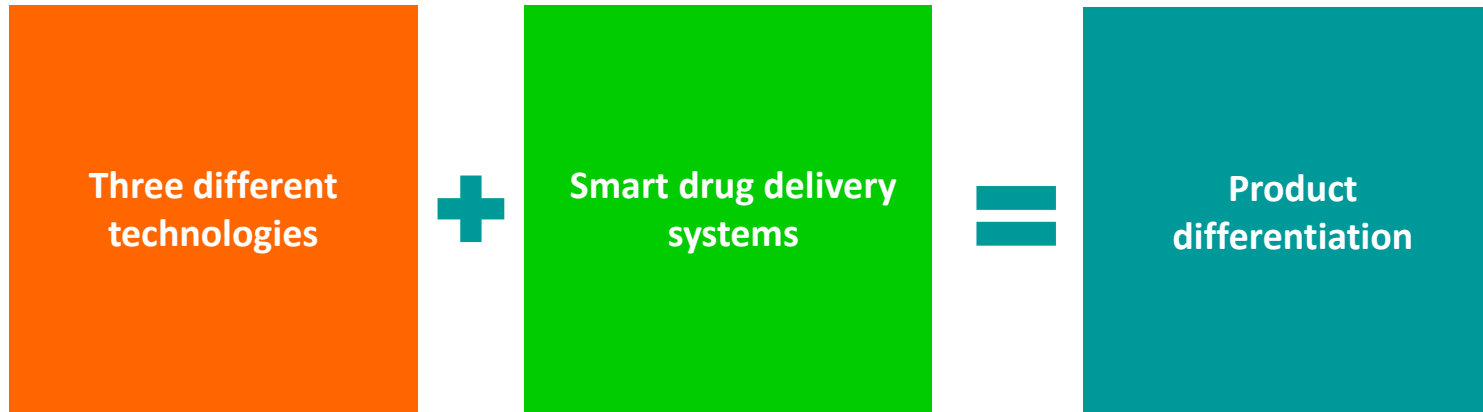
Technology to carry a drug inside the human body until it reaches its target.



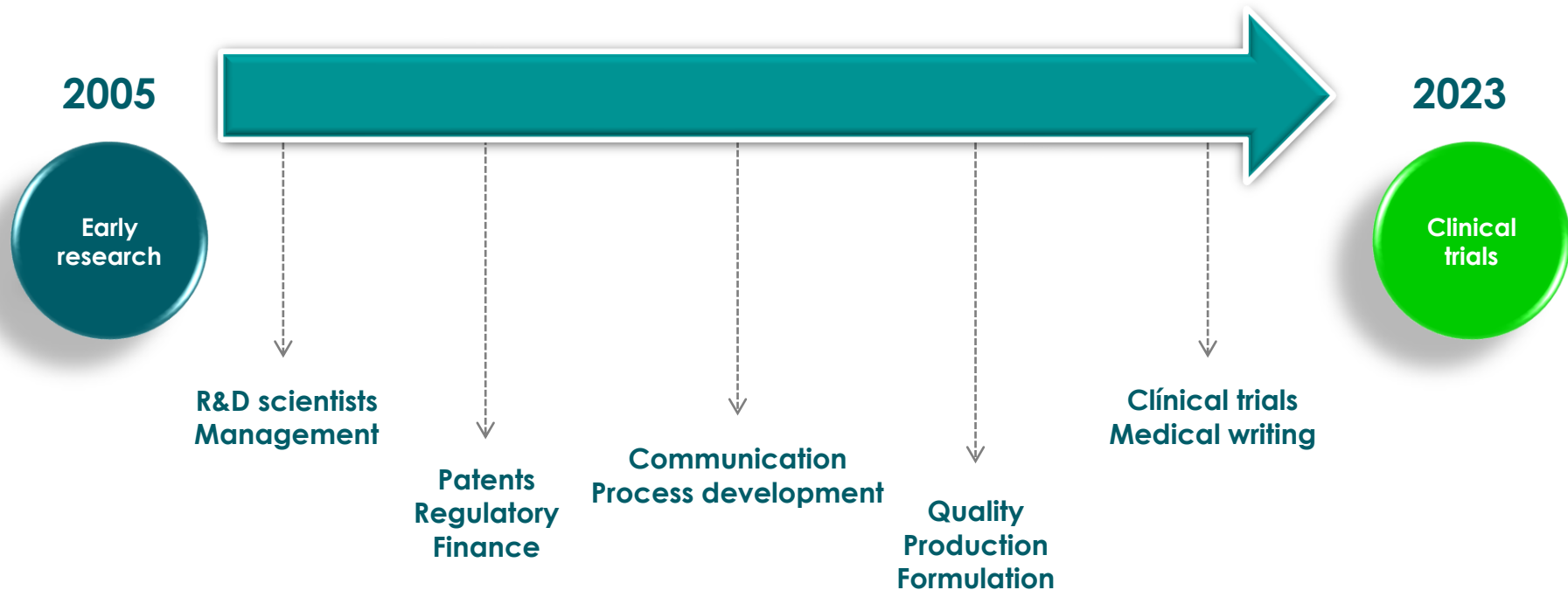
# SOLUTION



Creation of a pipeline of differentiated products based on different technologies, for unmet needs and using smart deliveries.



# INTERNAL CAPACITY



# PATENT PORTFOLIO

12

patent families,  
corresponding to 9  
proprietary projects,  
developed *in-house*



**215** live patents



**133** granted in  
more than **10**  
countries

# Fast Track Designation

Granted by **FDA** to TP-102 for the treatment of diabetic foot ulcers infected by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Acinetobacter baumannii* and *Staphylococcus aureus*



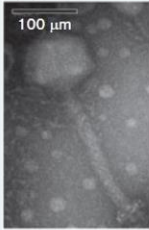

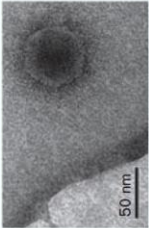

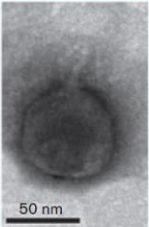
ROLLING REVIEW



EXPEDITE DEVELOPMENT

## Product features

**Technophage** has developed a bacteriophage cocktail, targeting three of the predominant bacteria in chronic wound infections, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Acinetobacter baumannii*

	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	<i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i>
TP-102 Bacteriophages:	F44/10 	F770/05 	F1245/05 
	F125/10 	F510/08 	

Source: Mendes et al.  
J Med Microbiol, 2014

### A Double-Blind and Randomized Study to Determine the Safety and Tolerability of Multiple Doses of TP-102 in Subjects with Non-Infected and Infected Diabetic Foot Ulcers

#### PRIMARY OBJECTIVE

The primary objective of this study is to evaluate the safety and tolerability following topical administration of multiple doses of TP-102 in diabetic subjects with non-infected diabetic foot ulcers (Part A, Cohort 1) and in diabetic subjects with DFU with infection grade 2 or 3 as per PEDIS classification (Part B, Cohort 2).

#### PRIMARY ENDPOINT

Emergent solicited and unsolicited local and systemic AEs and relationship to IP from first administration until 1 week after EOT

#### Non-INFECTED DFU

Cohort 1
(N = 8; TP-102: placebo 6:2 3x weekly up to 1 week IP q.d.

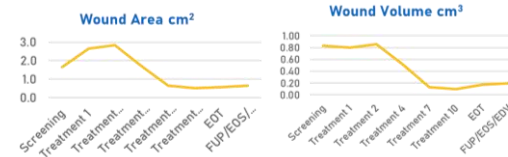
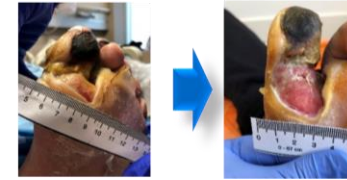
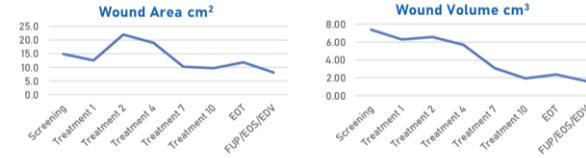


#### INFECTED DFU

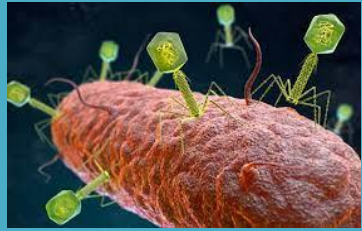
Cohort 2
(N = 18; TP-102: placebo 12:6 3x weekly up to four weeks IP q.d.

\*CEC (Cohort Escalation Committee) will make a recommendation to the sponsor to proceed or not to the next cohort based on data review

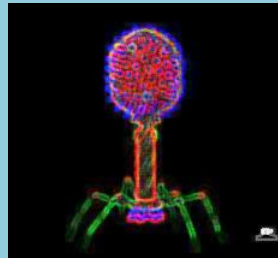
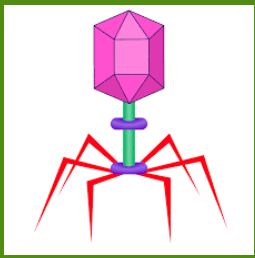
- NO TREATMENT RELATED ADVERSE EVENTS ASSOCIATED TO TP-102 OR PLACEBO REPORTED DURING THE TRIAL.
- PRELIMINARY DATA SUGGESTS THAT TP-102 MAY BE **EFFECTIVE IN REDUCTION OF DIABETIC FOOT ULCERS VOLUME.**
- *S. AUREUS* STRAINS ISOLATED FROM THE PATIENTS' WOUNDS WERE HIGHLY SUSCEPTIBLE TO THE INVESTIGATIONAL PRODUCT.
- THE **PHASE IIB STUDY** IS PLANNED TO START IN THE SECOND SEMESTER.



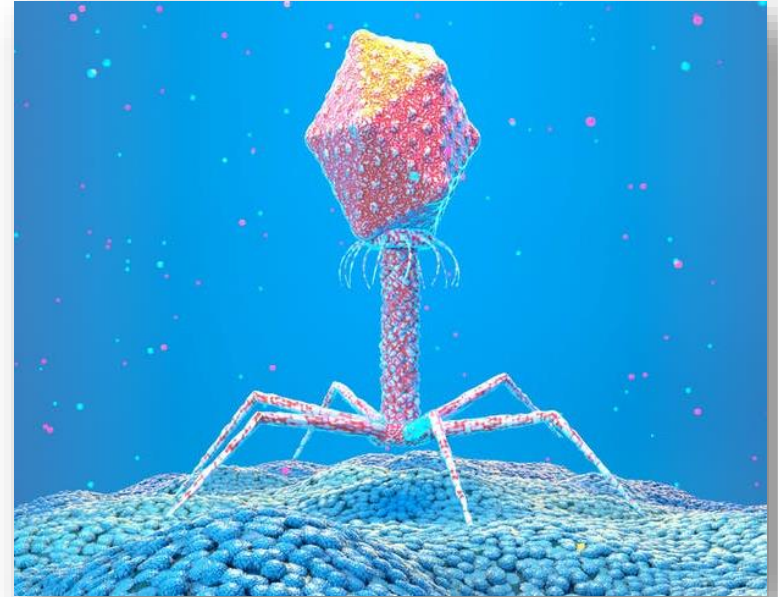




# Bacteriophages



- **Viruses that infect exclusively bacteria and use them as hosts**
- High level of specificity – target a particular bacteria species or subgroup
- Harmless to other organisms, including humans



Source: <https://theconversation.com/viruses-are-both-the-villains-and-heroes-of-life-as-we-know-it-169131>

## What is a Bacteriophage?

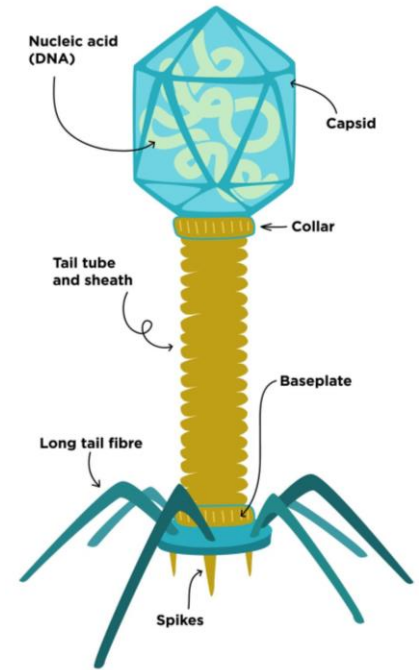
- Concerning genetic material:

- ssDNA phages
- dsDNA phages
- ssRNA phages
- dsRNA phages

- Concerning structure and morphology:

- Tailed phages
- Filamentous phages
- Polyhedral phages
- Pleomorphic phages

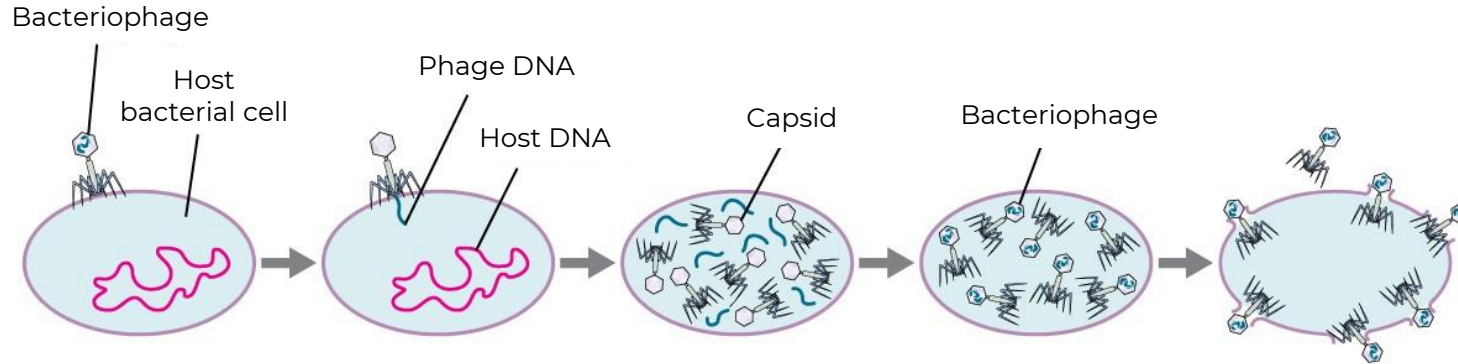
96%  
*Caudovirales*  
order



Source: <https://theconversation.com/viruses-are-both-the-villains-and-heroes-of-life-as-we-know-it-169131>

# Bacteriophages

## Infection Mechanism



### 1 Adsorption

The phage attaches to the surface of the host

### 2 Penetration

The viral DNA enters the host cell

### 3 Biosynthesis

Phage DNA replicates and phage proteins are made

### 4 Maturation

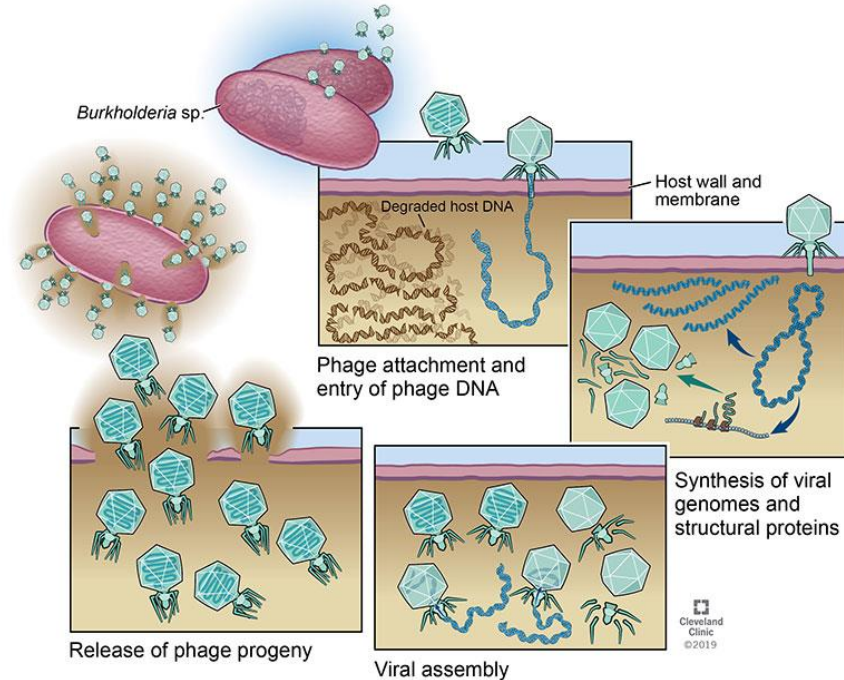
New phage particles are assembled.

### 5 Lysis

The cell lyses, releasing the newly made phages.

Adapted from <https://courses.lumenlearning.com/microbiology/chapter/the-viral-life-cycle/>

- Clinical use of natural/modified phages as antimicrobials for the treatment of human infections.
- Administration of naturally isolated virulent phages directly to the patient with the purpose of lysing a bacterial pathogen that is responsible for a chronic or acute infection.
- **Expected to reach \$3.6 billion by 2031.**



Source: <https://consultqd.clevelandclinic.org/phage-therapy-for-multidrug-resistant-bacterial-infections/>

### Discovery

**1890** - First description of bacteriophages by **Hankin** noted something not filterable in the waters of Ganges and Jumna rivers in India with antibacterial activity

**1915** - British bacteriologist **Frederick Twort** isolated filterable entities that destroy bacteria

**1917** - **Felix D' Herelle** found parasitic viruses of bacteria. Called them bacteriophages "eaters of bacteria"

- **Giorgi Eliava** Georgian microbiologist observed the same phenomena

### Therapeutic use of specific bacteriophage formulations to treat bacterial infections



Félix d' Herelle

#### **1st therapeutic application:**

1919 Hôpital des Enfants-Malades, Paris

7 children with dysentery

- Discovery of antibiotics (beginning of XX Century)
- Lack of knowledge of the bacteriophage's biology
- Lack of controls in the therapeutic formulations and treatments
- Changes in drug regulation in Europe and USA



**Abandonment of phage therapy in the Western world, continuing in the eastern countries, where the application of bacteriophages remains to the present day**



Increasing incidence of antibiotic resistant bacteria

Deficit in the development of new classes of antibiotics



**Renewed interest on phage therapy as alternative to halt the progression of the bacterial 'resistome'**

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) continues to look into ways to regulate it. The first clinical trial for intravenous (IV) phage therapy gained FDA approval in 2019.

# Bacteriophages

## Bacteriophages history



**NUNCA HOUVE TANTOS TOXICODPENDENTES PRESOS POR TRÁFICO**

**JN**  
Jornal de Notícias  
Fundado em 1880

**Milhões do PRR na saúde travam bactérias e criam medicamentos biológicos**

Tratamento para pé diabético e nariz que deteta doenças estão entre os projetos | Agendas inovadoras vão ter 127 milhões. É oportunidade única para o setor



**Agda à procura da vingança em Milão**

Promear o terrorismo após a detenção dos parceiros portugueses

**F. C. Porto**  
Pior ataques de Concelheiro no duelo com Barcelona

**Transportes**  
Empresas em risco de falência por causa do sucessivo aumento dos combustíveis



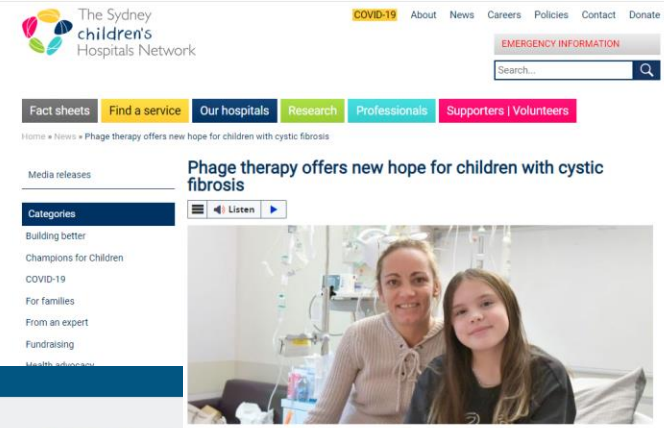
**"Vírus que tratam": uma enorme esperança suportada em vírus minúsculos**

Miriam Alves e SIC Notícias  
28.04.2023 17:53

Expresso 50  
SEMANÁRIO#2601 - 2/9/22

CIÊNCIA

**Doente com fibrose quística tratada com vírus que matam bactérias**



The Sydney Children's Hospitals Network

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**Phage therapy offers new hope for children with cystic fibrosis**

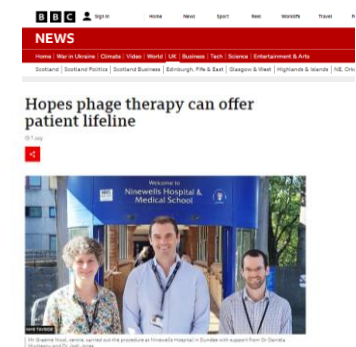
Listen



Monday 18 September 2023


OUR PATIENTS RESEARCH

In a major advancement for personalised medicine, The Children's Hospital at Westmead (CHW) has launched a world-first clinical trial investigating the use of phage therapy to treat a chronic bacterial infection in children with cystic fibrosis (CF).



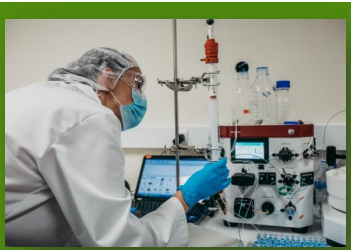
NEWS

Hopes phage therapy can offer patient lifeline

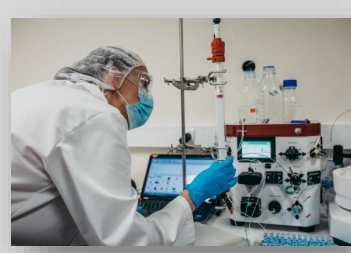


Welcomed to Ninewells Hospital & Medical School

# 2023



# Bacteriophages Manufacturing & Formulation



Phages are classified as medicinal products

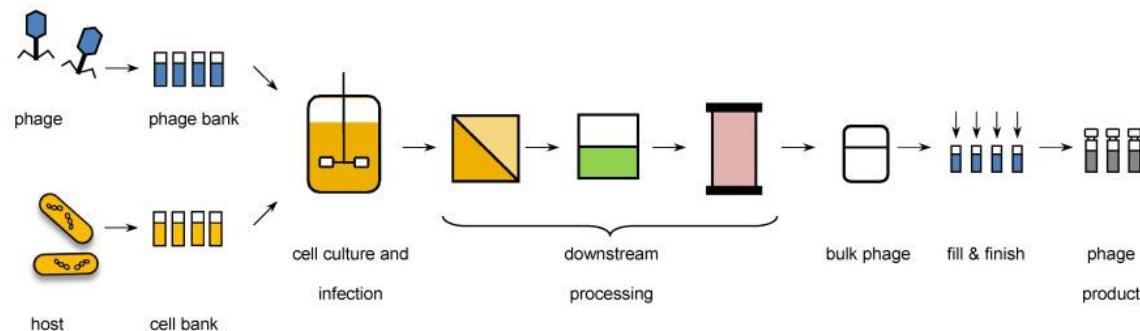


Products must be manufactured in compliance with GMP and follow the evaluation through clinical trials

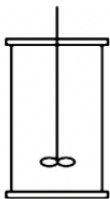
### Good Manufacturing Practices:

“Minimum requirements for the methods, facilities and controls used in manufacturing, processing and packaging of a drug product. The regulations make sure that a product is safe for use, and that it has the ingredients and strengths it claims to have” – **FDA**

The manufacturing process of a given phage involves several activities that are designed with the objective of producing a certain number of biologically active particles with specific qualities.

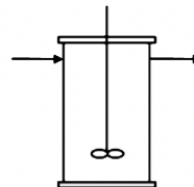


### Upstream Processing



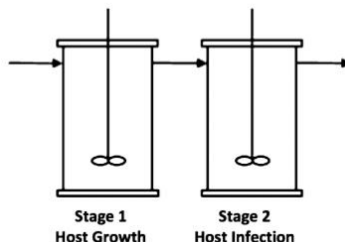
**Batch operation**

Most common



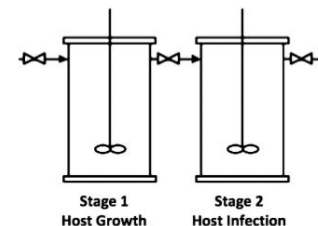
**Continuous operation**

Better quality and consistency of the product



**Two-stage continuous operation**

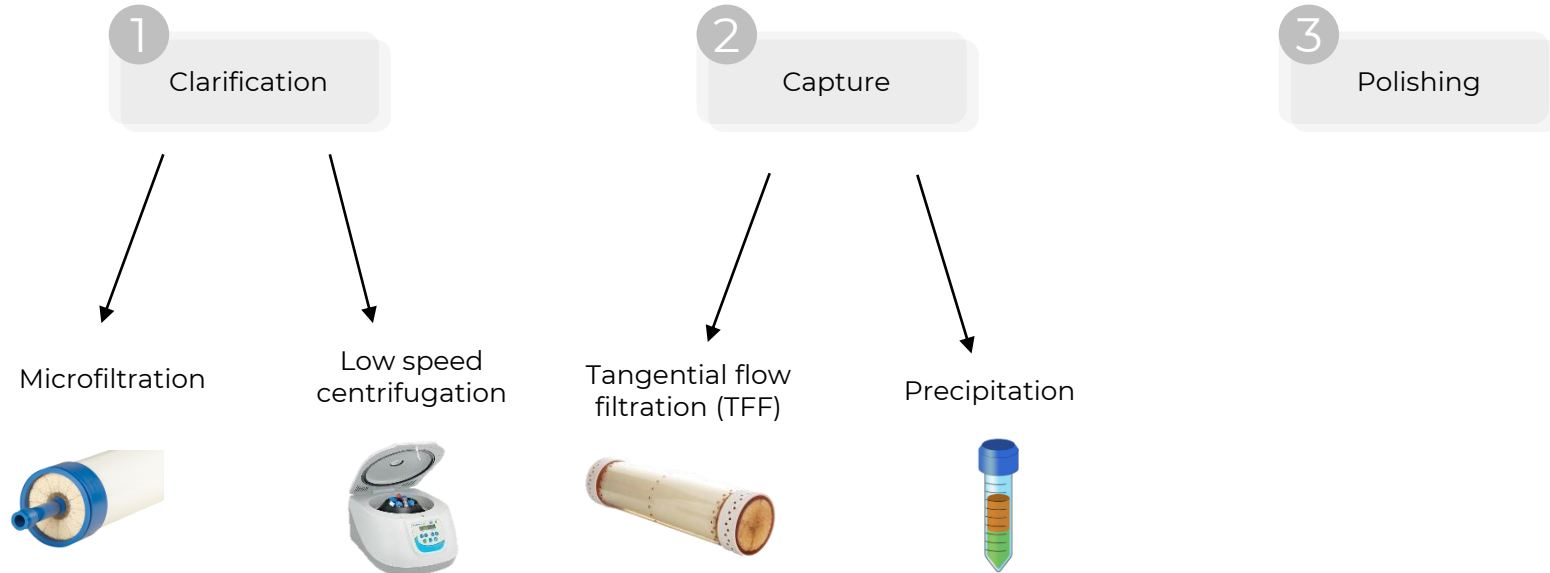
Control over the physiological state of the host



**Semi-continuous operation (self-cycling process)**

Combined advantages

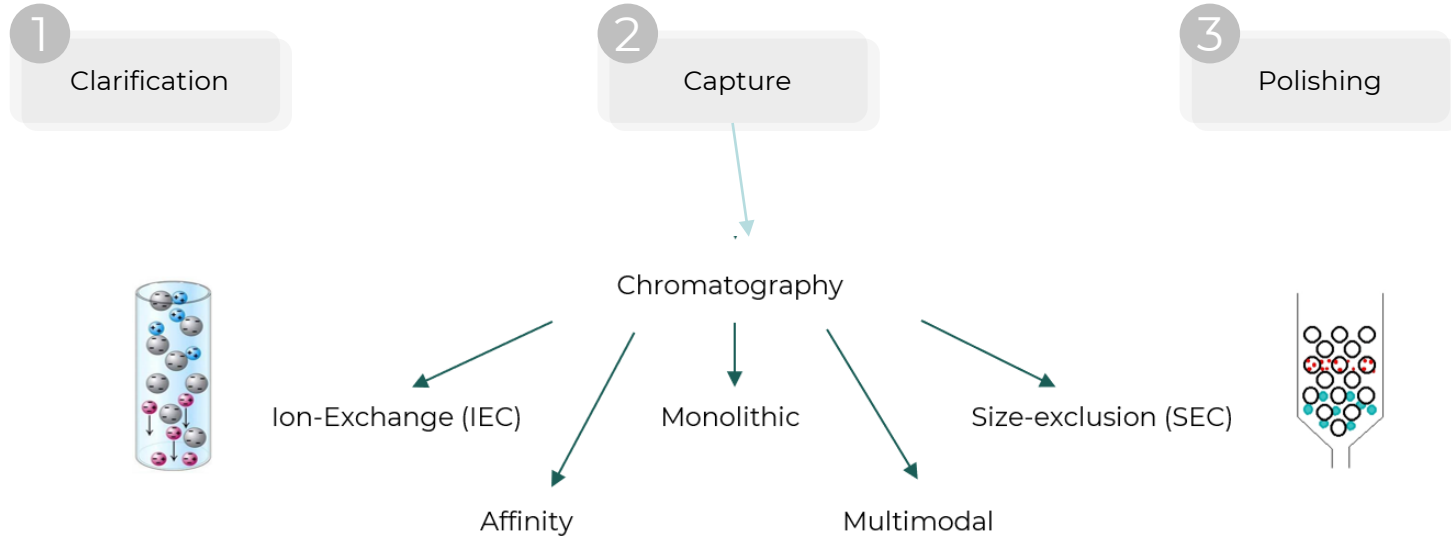
### Dowstream Processing



Sources: <https://www.lenntech.com/products/Pentair-X-Flow/2451RB452NG/2451RB452NG-S-14-Microfiltration-membrane-element/index.html> ; <https://www.indiamart.com/proddetail/lc-8-low-speed-centrifuge-22679598262.html>;

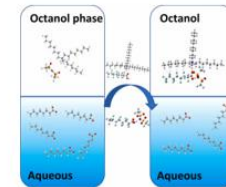
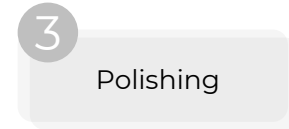
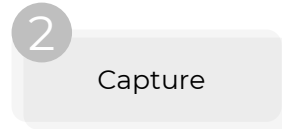
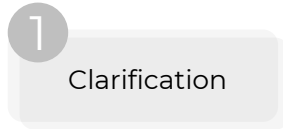
Sources: <https://www.meissner.com/products/tangential-flow-filters-separator/tangential-flow-cartridges>; Mastiani, M. et al. (2019).

### Dowstream Processing



Sources: <https://microbenotes.com/ion-exchange-chromatography/>; <http://technologyinscience.blogspot.com/2011/09/gel-filtration-chromatography-gf-size.html#.YeqF2lIP2Lo>;

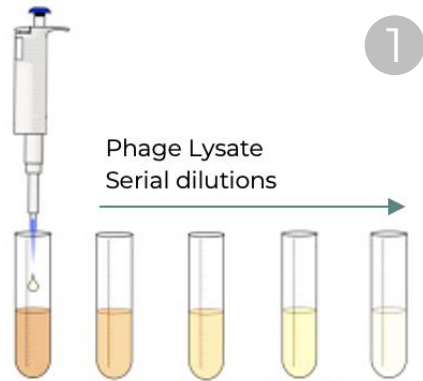
### Dowstream Processing



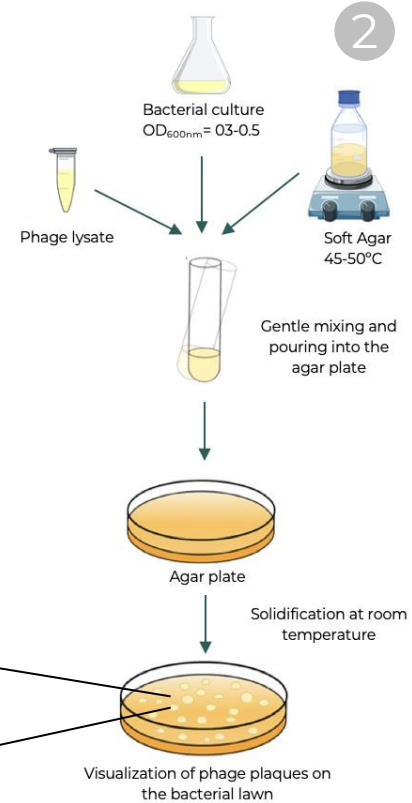
Source: Zhang, K., et al. (2020).



### Plaque Assay Double Layer Agar Method



Adapted from: Cotton, G. C. (2018)



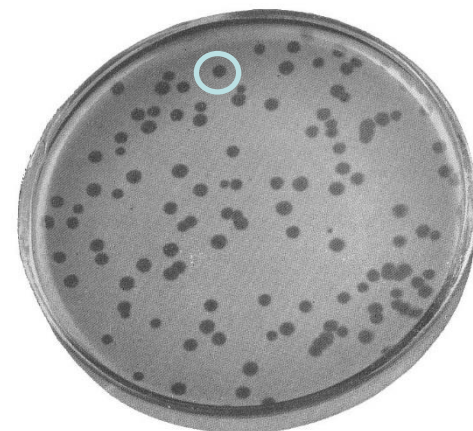
Adapted from: Stachurska, X., et al. (2021).

**Plaque forming units (PFUs)** can be described as both free phages and phage-infected bacteria.

- Serial dilutions necessary to enumerate a large number of phage particles.
- Assay should always be done in duplicates or triplicates.
- Plate needs to have sufficient plaque numbers for enumeration, but not so many that is not possible to distinguish one from another



Issue of statistical importance referred to as Too Few to Count (TFTC) or Too Numerous to Count (TNTC)





# Bacteriophages Future & Market

- Growth of biological medicines estimated at  $>10\%$ /year (growth in dollars; data from ICI meeting 2015), with a global growth rate of **5.3% for phages** (2022-2032);
- Biological medicines market grew 70% (in USD) between 2011-2016;
- Big Pharma willing to invest in biological medicines;



- Market not ready (yet) to receive biological medicines;
- Medicines with phages not authorized by Health Authorities, yet;
- Regulatory path to be defined (ongoing);
- Complex manufacturing and analysis processes (some still in development, e.g., HCPs);



Success is no accident.  
It is hard work, perseverance,  
learning, studying, *sacrifice*,  
and MOST of all,  
*love of what you are doing.*  
-Pele



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