

## Biopeople Information

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February 2017 PAGE 1



### Contents

Editorial	P2
Efforts to attract EMA	P3
Biopeople to visit companies	P4
Four companies to receive voucher	P5
State of Medicon Valley 2016	P6
EUPATI moves forward	P7
Calendar	P9

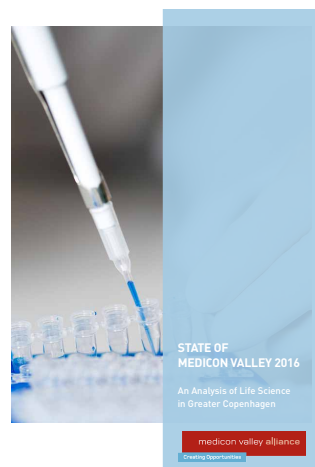
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### INNOVATION CENTRE DENMARK TEL AVIV TO HOST ONCOLOGY BIOMARKER SEMINAR

READ THE EDITORIAL ON PAGE 2

### STATE OF MEDICON VALLEY BY MEDICON VALLEY ALLIANCE

SEE PAGE 6



## Patients Involved



### SUCCESSFUL EUPATI MOVES FORWARD

READ PAGE 7

## Biopeople Information

[www.biopeople.dk](http://www.biopeople.dk)

Editorial

February 2017 PAGE 2



Per Spindler  
Director

### ONCOLOGY BIOMARKERS ON THE AGENDA, WHEN VISITING ISRAEL

Last fall Denmark opened the Innovation Centre Denmark in Tel Aviv. Israel is the country in the OECD, which invests most in research, innovation and entrepreneurship and this Innovation Centre plays along with the centres in other parts of the world an important role in the internationalisation of Danish research, education and business.

The reason for opening an Innovation Centre Denmark in Tel Aviv is to give Danish research and education institutions and Danish companies easier access to leading knowledge environments and relevant partners in Israel, which invests heavily in research and development. According to the Danish Government there is great potential for a strengthened Danish-Israeli knowledge collaboration.

As part of an overall Governmental action plan to strengthen the relations between Danish and Israeli life science research, Biopeople and the Innovation Centre Denmark in Tel Aviv will host a Danish-Israeli seminar in Tel Aviv 10 May 2017. We invite Danish companies and researchers to join a Danish delegation to the seminar and conjuring the International MIXii-Biomed 2017 Conference.

The title of the seminar is 'The Future of Oncology Biomarkers' and thus fits well into Biopeople's focus areas and ongoing projects within the biomarker field. This means that our stakeholders Bioneer, University of Copenhagen, The Danish Biomarker Network, MVA Oncology Network and Medicon Valley Alliance (MVA) are involved in this to cross fertilization of Danish and Israeli research. As a life science cluster organisation, we continuously aim to provide Danish companies and researchers the best possible opportunities to enhance their network and find new ways to explore possible new partnerships. In that respect the governmental focus on establishing relation with Israeli life science activities comes in handy.

Denmark and Israel both invest substantial resources in the research and development of technologies and devices for prevention, detection and treatment of diseases. Currently, one of the main diseases in focus internationally is oncology and the improvement in treatment of oncology through use of biomarkers, biobanks and registries.

We believe that close relations between Denmark and Israel will contribute to a continued success of Danish biotech industry and specifically in the biomarker and personalized medicine research and development area. Israel for instance offers access to anonymous patient information and the presence of many ethnic groups in Israel giving access to a large pool of genetics information.

We look forward to the seminar in Tel Aviv and hope to see new relations develop cross borders.

## Biopeople Information

[www.biopeople.dk](http://www.biopeople.dk)

February 2017 PAGE 3



### STRENGTHENED PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND EFFORTS TO ATTRACT EMA

The Danish pharmaceutical industry has a long history and its importance to the Danish well-fare system is reflected by the fact that this industry soon will be the largest provider of export income to the Danish Society.

The Danish Minister of Health Care Ellen Trane Nørby, whose focus is on the medical industry's contribution to the society and public/private partnerships as a way to strengthen research and innovation within health care, has indicated that she wants a closer collaboration with the Danish Association of the Pharmaceutical Industry.

On the Danish Health Care Agenda is also to attract the European Medicines Agency (EMA) to Copenhagen when it relocates from the UK. The Danish Association of the Pharmaceutical Industry in collaboration with other organisations has worked on a Danish offer.

Hosting of the European Medicines Agency would be a valuable addition to the important contribution of medical industry to research and innovation, societal change, healthcare and welfare in general. Not to forget the existing amount of jobs in this industry, 900 new positions will be available if we succeed to attract EMA to Denmark.

Denmark competes with several other countries when trying to attract EMA, among them are Sweden, Holland, Italy, Spain, France and Poland and possibly Ireland. Former CEO of Novo Nordisk, Lars Rebien, is Denmark's special agent in the negotiation process around the relocation of EMA.

## Biopeople Information

[www.biopeople.dk](http://www.biopeople.dk)

February 2017 PAGE 4



### BIOPEOPLE TO VISIT COMPANIES IN THE LIFE SCIENCE NETWORK

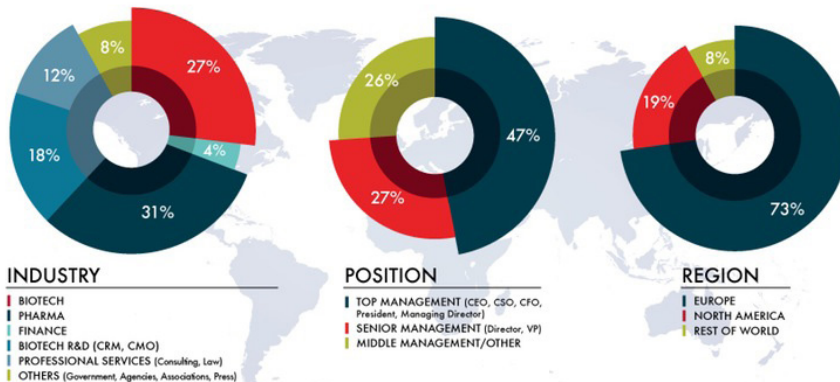
Biopeople strengthens the ties to the SME life science cluster stakeholders to identify development status and potential to possibly be part of Biopeople's initiatives

Biopeople has started a visiting round to the SMEs that are registered in the Biopeople network. The objective being to get knowledge and strengthen the ties between SMEs in the network to the secretariat.

Biopeople is part of several national and international activities which may include invitations to national SMEs to participate and benefit from. Through a closer relationship it may be possible to create a better synergy between Biopeople's national and international activities and the needs of the SMEs in the Danish network.

Biopeople visits and make interviews at relevant SMEs in the network. We ask for information about the development status of the companies and inform about activities and offers, aimed at this target group, as for instance the possibility of participating in specific match-making activities in Denmark and cross borders as well as the possibility of getting small financial incitements, which may make it possible to travel and meet potential partners. We also test whether our biomarker activities may be of interest.

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Attendees at the Bio-Europe Spring

### BOOST4HEALTH: FOUR COMPANIES TO RECEIVE A TRAVEL VOUCHER FOR THE PARTICIPATION AT BIO-EUROPE SPRING

With a very tight deadline Biopeople invited selected SME members to apply for a Boost4Health travel voucher of EUR 500 to go to Bio-Europe Spring in March 2017. The invited companies managed to apply within the deadline and we have granted travel vouchers to four companies which are Expres2ion, Meabco, Cytovac and Biosyntia

These vouchers are awarded for one person, who combined with a sign-up discount of EUR 200 and discount for early bird registrations of another EUR 200 result in a total saving EUR 900 when attending the conference. Other employees have been able to get the Boost4Health discount combined with the early bird registration at 30 January at the latest, an extended deadline for the benefit of the Boost4Health project.

Biopeople is a Boost4Health partner. Boost4Health is an Interreg project with European 10 regional partners, among them is Catalonia, where Biocat is project partner. At Bio-Europe Spring the Danish delegates are invited to participate in a networking reception at Biocat's exhibition stand together with delegates from the other partner regions.

## Biopeople Information

www.biopeople.dk

### STATE OF MEDICON VALLEY 2016

February 2017 PAGE 6

#### An Analysis of Life Science in Greater Copenhagen from Medicon Valley Alliance

Life science in Denmark and Sweden has developed in different directions over the past decade. Danish life science exports doubled in seven years, and last year they were nearly 50% greater than Swedish.

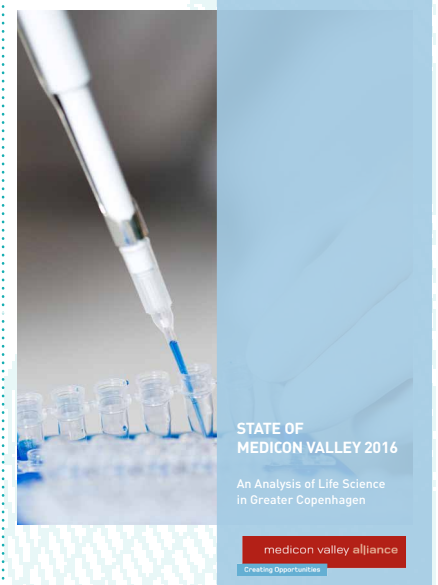
The number of employees has risen, and thanks to a well-developed system with industrial foundations, the large companies' headquarters and major shareholders are still in Denmark. At the same time in Sweden, more large companies are now foreign-owned, the largest headquarters have left the country and more important operations have either shrunk in scale or closed down, and the number of employees in the sector has diminished. But there are signs of a change for the better in the university city Lund as well as in Södertälje, Stockholm and Uppsala, visible with for example new biotechnology companies, new research facilities and new investments in the R&D of biological medicines.

It is part of a new phase in the life science sector's global transition, and it is also perceptible in Denmark as the simultaneous reports of cutbacks and the hiring of new competence. Medicon Valley Alliance is also in a transitional phase, with a new strategy that focuses more on the role as a networking organisation for the life science cluster on both sides of the Öresund. Part of MVAs upgraded ambition is to increase knowledge about the companies and research in Medicon Valley.

This is the first edition of our new annual analytic report State of Medicon Valley, which offers a unique presentation of life science developments in the Öresund region, on a macro- as well as a micro-scale. Measuring developments in a sector like life science is a challenge; there are no clearly defined statistical definitions for the sector, and there are also overlaps, which further increases the complexity. That makes this analysis more important than ever. The analysis reveals that Greater Copenhagen has developed into the leading Nordic region for life science in the past ten years.

The majority of the Danish life science companies are located in the Region, and Medicon Valley overshadows the other Nordic countries when it comes to the number of international patent applications for life science. On the other side of the Strait in the Skåne region, a new beacon is being erected with the new materials research facilities ESS and MAX IV, which will become an important resource for the Region's life science companies.

There is also fertile ground for new companies in the Region's many established and emerging science parks such as COBIS, Scion DTU, Symbion, Medeon, Medicon Village and Ideon.



State of Medicon Valley 2016 is the first of a long-term analysis collaboration between Medicon Valley Alliance and Øresunds instituttet. The analysis will be released every year, and each year will bring an in-depth investigation of a new topic. Special reports are planned for release throughout the year. The analysis is part of an open process, where you – the sector's players – are welcome to contribute with your points of view and reflections.

*Read the whole report here*

## Biopeople Information

[www.biopeople.dk](http://www.biopeople.dk)

February 2017 PAGE 7

### PATIENT EDUCATION AND EMPOWERMENT = BETTER MEDICINES AND BETTER HEALTH OUTCOMES EUPATI MOVES FORWARD!

EUPATI, the European Patients' Academy, closes its first phase as a project of IMI to now become a programme under the aegis of the European Patients' Forum (EPF). The European Patients' Academy provides scientifically reliable and comprehensive information to patients and the general public on the medicines research and development process to enable their involvement. Just 5 years ago, EUPATI set out to educate patients across Europe in seven languages (English, French, German, Italian, Polish, Russian and Spanish) via various platforms, principally its website.

The key assets of EUPATI - the website, the Toolbox, and the Expert Training Course - will be maintained and developed, continuing to educate and empower patients for a more active role as partner in all aspects of medicines research and development. The funding for the next three years is ensured and the project management has begun its work. This will include strong collaboration with the EUPATI National Platforms (national education/ empowerment teams in 18 countries) as well as other initiatives in the field of patient engagement and will develop a strategy for a long-term sustainability.

At the most recent conference in Brussels on 14 December\*, the outreach was more than 80,000 individual users of the website. In mid-January 2017 that number surpassed the 100,000 mark. Based on this success, and the clear demand, Nicola Bedlington, Secretary General of EPF, has confirmed that although EUPATI has reached its goals as an IMI project, it will carry on as a programme under the auspices of the EPF, keeping the public-private partnership spirit.

Also during the December conference, EUPATI graduated 96 Expert Patients (now known as EUPATI Fellows) from 31 different countries in 58 disease areas to become future trainers and experts in their patient roles\*.

A survey among EUPATI Fellows showed that with their new expertise, their engagement as partners in all stages of medicines development has increased significantly - with the pharmaceutical industry, regulatory authorities, universities and HTA bodies. This collaboration ranges from advising researchers when starting new programmes in areas of unmet medical need, input on clinical trial design, and participation in the safety assessment of new medicines. The call for applications for the 2017/2018 EUPATI Expert Patient course has just been released!

The online resources include more than 200 articles (in 12 categories), 400 glossary terms, almost 250 acronyms, 55 infographics, 40 presentations, all in at least seven languages in line with the EUPATI mission. The educational material is offered under Creative Commons, meaning anyone can use, reuse and adapt the



[www.eupati.eu](http://www.eupati.eu)

The Danish EUPATI Platform and educational material in Danish at <https://www.eupati.eu/denmark/>

@eupatients, #patientsinvolved

## Biopeople Information

www.biopeople.dk

February 2017 PAGE 8

material as long as they do not sell it, just by crediting EUPATI and referring to the Creative Commons terms.

At [www.eupati.eu](http://www.eupati.eu), there are now "case reports" and starter kits to help any trainer use the material and make it fit their very specific needs wherever they are. While the focus has been on the original seven languages, new languages will appear in 2017, including Dutch, Danish, Romanian and Portuguese. The webpage will soon be redesigned, to facilitate easier access to what you need when searching for information, making navigation, downloads, entry points and access easier.

EUPATI is now reaching international audiences. As expected, our primary users come from Europe (more than 72,000), but also from the Americas (16,000+). EUPATI users now extend to Asia with more than 10,000 visitors and to Africa more than 2500! 70% of our visitors to date are between the ages of 25 and 44. EUPATI has about 4000 Twitter followers and on Facebook we have reached almost 20,000 people in the past month.

EUPATI has established a network of EUPATI National Platforms to help people on a national level get more involved. There are currently 18 National Platforms set up, in varying phases of evolution. Please find your National group at <https://www.eupati.eu/eupati-network/> and learn more about what they do and how you can connect with them!

EUPATI has also produced Guidance Documents to help in engagement practices of patients in medicines research and development, with the pharmaceutical industry, ethical committees, regulatory agencies and HTA bodies. These practical tools can be found at <https://www.eupati.eu/guidance-patient-involvement/>.

EUPATI has become a strong European partnership in patient education and empowerment in the entire life cycle of medicines and we invite anyone with an interest and commitment in driving this forward to join us.

### About EUPATI

*The European Patients' Academy provides scientifically reliable, objective, comprehensive information to patients and the general public on the research and development process of medicines. We want to increase the capacity of patients and the lay public to be effective advocates and advisors, e.g., in clinical trials, with regulatory authorities and in ethics committees. EUPATI is a team of 33 organisations, led by the European Patients' Forum, made up of a unique combination of patient organisations, university and not-for-profit organisations expert in patient and public engagement, along with European pharmaceutical companies working in research.*

*EUPATI promotes more meaningful involvement of patients in areas like drug discovery, clinical trials planning and conduct, the assessment of safety of medicines, the balance of benefit and risk and health economics. Find out more about the European Patients' Academy, including our ethics and transparency policies, in seven languages, at: <https://www.eupati.eu/eupati-ethical-framework/>*

*The "European Patients' Academy on Therapeutic Innovation" project is receiving support from the Innovative Medicines Initiative Joint Undertaking under grant agreement n° 115334, resources of which are composed of financial contribution from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) and EFPIA companies.*



## Calendar

[www.biopeople.dk](http://www.biopeople.dk)

February 2017 PAGE 9

2 March 2017	Hvordan involverer vi patienter i medicinsk forskning og hvad betyder det for forskningen ?
7 March 2017	Medicon Valley Alliance: Neutrons for the Life Science Industry
16 March 2017	Medicon Valley Alliance: Optimizing your oncology trial through medical imaging
20 March 2017	Bio-Europe Spring, Barcelona, Spain
22 March 2017	Medicon Valley Alliance: From Compliance to Performance
29 March 2017	Kliniske Forsøg 2017 i København, 20% rabat ved tilmelding via Biopeople
31 March 2017	EUPATI Expert Training Course
26 April 2017	Nordic Precision Medicine Forum
7 May 2017	10th Global Conference for Clinical Nanomedicine and Targeted Medicine, Basel
9 May, 2017	Danish IP Fair 2017, Copenhagen
18 May 2017	Knowledge for Growth 2017
21 May 2017	The Future of Oncology Biomarkers Round Trip and Conference, Tel Aviv
21 May 2017	Future Medicines For One World Conference: drug discovery, development and clinical usage, Stockholm
29 May 2017	MVA Oncology Network's 3rd Meeting, Copenhagen
12 September 2017	Nordic Life Science Days 2017, Malmö
1 November 2017	2017 AGORA
22 January 2018	Training Course in Safety Sciences - Regulatory Requirements and Guidelines (IMI SafeSciMET), Lisbon