

CURRICULUM VITAE

DR. JOHN R. NORMANTON BSc PhD DipClinSci MIOd

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CAREER HISTORY

Managing Director, Owner & Founder, Oxandia Limited (www.oxandia.com) **May 2006 - present**

Managing Director & Co-founder ArgantriX Limited (www.argantrix.com) **Mar 2014 - present**

Orchard Lea, Horns Lane, Combe, Oxfordshire

Consultancy companies offering services to academia, SME's, investors and industry in:

- business development & licensing
- patent portfolio strategy & IP management
- business and project planning
- strategic early spin-out management

My initial goal in forming Oxandia was to address the need for start-ups and early-stage companies to have access to in-depth experience of the above skills whilst in the crucial initial phase of their life. However, it rapidly became apparent that a broad range of bodies (universities, charities, larger companies, private individuals, etc.) often urgently needed basic advice on IP management and commercialisation. Having gained significant working experience in academic technology transfer; start-up planning, formation & management; fund raising and corporate life in 'big pharma', I am well placed to either fulfil these roles or supply 'missing' expertise, on an 'as needed' basis. This was extended in 2014 by the formation of ArgantriX with the specific objective of advance collaborative company formation between overseas countries and the UK.

I have over 25 years of experience in:

- negotiating, implementing and managing £multi-million R&D contracts placed with academia (inc. £26M returned to 2 UK universities from one company over a 10-year period)
- strategic IP planning and management within (over 500 patent applications filed and prosecuted)
- in- and out-licensing negotiations and post-signature management (various £multi-million deals successfully closed)
- sourcing, drafting and project managing grant applications

I am 'launch' Chair/CEO/Director of a number of early-stage companies currently in this phase:

Polypharmakos Limited (www.polypharmakos.com)

University of Cambridge & Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (New antimicrobials derived from botanicals)

CholesteniX Limited (www.cholestenix.com)

Universities of Swansea & Karolinska Institutet (Neurodegeneration therapeutics and diagnostic company)

Lucilia Pharma Limited (www.lucilia-pharma.com)

University of Swansea (Antimicrobial therapeutics based on insect secondary metabolites)

EstryX Pharma Limited (www.stryx.com)

Universities of Oxford & Bath (Endocrine-dependant oncology therapeutics spin-out company)

GliaGenesis Limited (www.gliagenesis.com)

Company spinning out of a UK university (Neuro-regeneration therapeutics & glial cell function)

Rechargion Energy Private Limited (www.rechargion.com)

A new Indian company in the area of next-generation sodium-ion and lithium-sulfur batteries

Nebuquine Limited (currently operating in 'stealth' mode)

A new company developing therapeutics (Covid-19 and other pulmonary indications inc. lung cancer)

Allosterica Limited (currently operating in 'stealth' mode)

A new drug target identification company spinning out from industry (All clinical indications)

Director, Commercial Project Planning**Mar 2005 - Apr-2006****Ipsen Limited**, 14 Kensington Square, LondonReporting to SVP, Business Development (*Mr. Christian de la Tour*)**Consultant to Ipsen Limited****Mar 2004 - Feb 2005 and May 2006 - Apr 2011**Reporting to Group VP, Corporate Development (*Dr. Alistair Stokes*) and CSO (*Dr. Jacques-Pierre Moreau*)

Principal responsibilities:

- Integration of Sterix Ltd. into the Ipsen Group
- Business development & Licensing
- Intellectual property strategy and management
- Alliance management (CR-UK & Spirogen Ltd.)

My initial role was to assist Ipsen in assimilating the IP, projects, personnel and business operations of Sterix into the Ipsen organisation following its acquisition in February 2004. Specifically, the brief covered: full management of strategy and prosecution of Sterix's extensive patent portfolio (reporting to VP, Intellectual Property); integration of Sterix's Phase I study of STX 64 in breast cancer with CRUK; assistance with in- and out-licensing programme for the Sterix product portfolio (reporting to VP, Business Development) including close liaison with: Bayer-Schering, Novartis, Takeda, Kyowa Hakko, BioMerieux, PregLem SA, the Universities of Bath and Edinburgh and Imperial College.

Subsequently, I took on broader functions operating across all of Ipsen's sectors of business development: neuromuscular, oncology and endocrinology and was involved in initiating, negotiating and closing a significant number of in- and out-licensing agreements as well as assisting in company spin-out activities and co-ordinating a series of patent due diligence exercises. I became increasingly involved in planning and budgetary management across Ipsen's patent portfolio as a founding member and Secretary of the Intellectual Property Strategy Committee (reporting to the Executive VP & CSO). I was also responsible for alliance management with CRUK and Spirogen Ltd. in respect of preclinical R&D and clinical development.

Chief Operating Officer**May 2001 - Feb 2004****Company Secretary****Aug 1998 - Jan 2002****Managing Director****Aug 1998 - May 2001****Co-founder****May 1997****Sterix Limited**, Magdalen Centre, Oxford Science Park, Oxford, OX4 4GAReporting to Executive Chairman (*Dr. Peter Johnson*)

Principal responsibilities:

- Intellectual property management
- Business development & Licensing
- Information technology management
- Financial & project management
- Oxford preclinical screening & DMPK support
- Legal, Regulatory and Health & Safety compliance

In late-1997 I incorporated Sterix Limited with co-founders, *the late Prof. Mike Reed* (Professor of Steroid Biochemistry, Imperial College) and *Prof. Barry Potter* (Professor of Medicinal Chemistry, University of Bath) with the aim of developing steroidal and steroid-mimetic products in oncology and endocrinology. I negotiated terms for assignment key technologies and IP and Sterix became fully operational in August 2000 when I signed a £multi-million licence agreement with Schering AG in HRT/oral contraception. This revenue funded Sterix's initial operations through to 2001 included a team (~40 FTE's at peak) of medicinal chemists and biologists working under contract at Bath and Imperial. I established Sterix's headquarters on the Oxford Science Park and in 2000 recruited a part-time Executive Chairman.

In 2001, we together secured £8m funding from 3i, J&JDC, Avlar and Quester and Sterix's R&D activities were substantially augmented at Bath and Imperial and a Preclinical R&D Support Facility was established in new laboratories in Oxford.

From 2001 through to 2004 I coordinated the Executive Committee, established the Drug Development Committee and managed the Company's day-to-day operations. Throughout this period I crafted a patent portfolio that would lead on to ~450 applications and also successfully negotiated a further substantial licence

agreement with a major Japanese company in 2002 and coordinated the appointments to Sterix's SAB, orchestrated several budgetary restructurings and business plan revisions.

Throughout 2003 I, together with my Chairman and R&D directors, presented to numerous companies exploring the potential for partnerships including several potential merger/acquisition discussions and, in February 2004, Sterix underwent a successful trade sale to the Ipsen Group. The assets included an extensive patent portfolio together with a pipeline of major potential products including steroid sulfatase inhibitors for oncology and other indications, dual aromatase/sulfatase inhibitors, 11 β HSD inhibitors for type II diabetes and a combined microtubule disruptor/angiogenesis inhibitor indicated for a range of solid tumours. During the sale I managed the due diligence process and oversaw key aspects of the legal negotiations with Ipsen and with Imperial and Bath to secure their ongoing working relationship.

In aggregate, with Sterix I was successful in returning £26M of R&D funding to the UK university sector.

Director & Company Secretary

Jul 1996 - Oct 1997

3i Research Exploitation Ltd., (then a subsidiary of Imperial Exploitation Ltd., London)

Reporting to Chairman of IC Innovations Ltd. (*Sir Peter Baxendell*)

Principal responsibilities:

- Sole operational director
- Intellectual property management
- Business development
- Financial management

I held overall responsibility for strategy in a range of areas including: malarial vaccines, peritoneal dialysis, Down's Syndrome pre-natal testing and novel chimeric antibodies for oncology.

Technology Transfer Executive

Apr 1991 - Aug 1998

Imperial Innovations Ltd. (then IMPEL Ltd.), Imperial College, London

Reporting to CEO (*the late Dr. David Thomas – pro-Rector, Imperial College*)

Principal responsibilities:

- Project management of Imperial College-funded biopharmaceutical development projects.
- Evaluating, patenting and out-licensing of Imperial College biopharmaceutical technologies.
- Agency management of 3i Research Exploitation Ltd. (Dec 1992 - Jul 1996)

I held overall responsibility for sourcing, patenting and licensing in small molecule therapeutics for all departments as well as co-responsibility for certain other areas of diagnostics, vaccine and biologicals. This involved a significant amount of technology auditing and contact with a large number of companies from multinationals to start-ups. From 1991 to 1997 I secured and managed various types of funding from Imperial College, Bath, Cyanamid, Schering AG and CRUK for R&D teams at Imperial and the University of Bath. Additionally, I filed seminal patents and licensed in areas including: Alzheimer's animal models and diagnostics (licensed to Athena Neurosciences, Inc. later sold to Élan Corp.), allergy immunotherapy (part of the basis of Circassia Ltd.), cancer cachexia, BSE, Freidreich's Ataxia & polycystic ovary disease diagnostics, automated DNA sequencing, vaccine and retroviral vector delivery systems.

Patents and Licensing Executive

May 1990 - Apr 1991

3i Research Exploitation Ltd., Windsor (subsidiary of 3i plc)

Reporting to CEO (*Dr. Charles DesForges*)

Principal responsibilities:

- Sourcing, evaluating, patenting and licensing of biomedical technologies
- Project management of 3i REL-funded biomedical development projects
- UK university pharmaceutical technology audit and liaison

During my tenure at 3i REL I filed the initial patent applications on steroid sulfatase inhibitors in oncology and secured 'proof-of-concept' funding for collaboration between this group and Prof. Potter's medicinal chemistry group at Bath University for lead optimization studies.

Clinical Research Associate and Information Resources Manager Jun 1988 - Mar 1990
Clinical Research Unit London, Sandoz Ltd. (now Novartis) Camberley, Surrey
Reporting to Unit Head, London (*Dr. Deirdre Gillespie*) and to Medical Experts, Basel
Principal responsibilities:

- UK phase III pivotal trial of Navoban in chemotherapy-induced emesis
- Monitoring of several phase I/II studies in patients (ADME, PK, early efficacy, etc.)
- Planning, purchasing, implementation and administration of IT resources

My main responsibility whilst at Sandoz was the management of the UK arm of a high-profile multi-country multicentre Phase III trial on Sandoz's 5-HT₃ antagonist in chemotherapy-induced emesis. Key centres recruited and/or managed included: University College (*Prof. Robert Souhami*); The Christie Hospital (*Prof. Tony Howell*); Guy's Hospital (*Prof. Sir Mike Richards*) and Southampton (*Dr. Chris Williams*).

William Carleton Gibson Junior Research Fellow, Green College, Oxford Oct 1986 - Jun 1988
College Lecturer in Neurophysiology, Exeter College, Oxford Oct 1985 - Jun 1988

I was elected to these positions for my research work in the area of sleep neurochemistry and tutorial services in neurophysiology. I remain a member of Green College and Exeter's Senior Common Room.

Departmental Demonstrator Oct 1982 - Jun 1988
University Laboratory of Physiology, Oxford

Reporting to Head of Department (*Prof. Sir Colin Blakemore*)

Responsible for:

- Independent research into neuropharmacology of putative endogenous sleep substances
- Basic and advanced teaching and tutoring in CNS neurophysiology
- Supervision of BA, medical and D.Phil student research projects

Research Associate & Rowbottom Research Fellow Oct 1980 - Sep 1982
Department of Physiology, University of Birmingham

Reporting to Professor of Neurophysiology (*the late Prof. John Wolstencroft*)

Responsible for

- Independent electrophysiological research into novel neuropeptides in the brain and spinal cord

PATENT INVENTORSHIP

PCT/GB2012/000499
PCT/EP2021/057124

PCT/GB2014/000356
PCT/EP2021/058784
GB 2102950.9

PCT/GB2015/054170
GB 2018245.7

QUALIFICATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

- **Member of Council, PerMed, Prague** (<https://permed.cz/web>) **2018 - Present**
Czech National Centre of Competence – Personalized Medicine – Diagnostics and Therapy
- **Advisor to i&i Prague s.r.o.** (www.iniprague.com) **2017 - Present**
Early stage life investment fund in MedTech, Diagnostics and Drug Discovery
- **Member of the International Business Advisory Board, IOCB Tech s.r.o., Prague** **2016 - Present**
Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry of the Czech Academy of Sciences
- **MIOD** elected member of the Institute of Directors (www.iod.com) **1999 - Present**
- **Diploma in Clinical Science**, University of Wales **1990**
Thesis : *“Good Clinical Research Practice: Background, Impact and Future for Clinical Trials”*
- **PhD** Electrophysiology of Neuropeptides, Dept. of Pharmacology, Leeds **1982**
Thesis : *“Physiological and Pharmacological Studies of Some Endogenous Peptides in the CNS”*
- **BSc** (Hons) class I Pharmacology, Leeds University **1977**