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The right antibiotic at the right time

Patented lifesaving technology

Working prototype

£1.5 m NHS contract secured

Dr Magdalena Karlikowska, CEO

RAPID ANTIBIOTIC SELECTION TEST





TECHNOLOGY: OPTICAL ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY

Electrically induced bacterial membrane-potential dynamics correspond to cellular proliferation capacity

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NAS

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Phenotypic, growth-independent AST

We combine time-lapse microscopy, bioelectricity, and machine learning to deliver precise measurement of bacterial response to antibiotics in just 45 seconds.





EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN:

Single-cell time-lapse microscopy + electric zap



Shift in resting membrane potential is sufficient to describe the distinct responses between proliferative and inhibited cells





Cells killed with UV light can be quickly and easily differentiated H from live cells





Cells killed with vancomycin can be differentiated from untreated control cells using the same process



Many antibiotics are selective in their ability to inhibit cells - useful for differentiating broad groups of bacteria



FROM BIG LAB SET UP TO PORTABLE PROTOTYPE



CYTECOM RESULTS MATCH THE GOLD STANDARD



ANTIBIOTIC STRESS RESPONSE IN MINUTES



- Distinct bacterial response profiles to electric show following antibiotic exposure in lab media
- Resistant vs susceptible bacteria detected in 30 mins



	Traditional test	Emerging rapid tests	Cytecom rapid test	
Sample prep	1-step	~5-15 steps	1-step	
Antibiotic exposure	24-48h	2-7h	0.5-2h	

Sample Preparation:

Direct from positive blood culture!





Gram-positive S. aureus



COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

	Established	Competition	Novel Technologies			
	Culture-based	Molecular-based	Direct growth-dependent	Indirect growth-dependent	Phenotypic growth-independent	
				Test support		// Cytecom
Method	Broth Microdilution, Disk Diffusion	PCR, Sequencing	Automated Microscopy, Growth Kinematics	Electrochemical Profiles, Volatile Organic Compounds	Flow-cytometry, Nanomotion	Optical Electrophysiology
No growth delay	×	\checkmark	x	×	\checkmark	\checkmark
Phenotypic MIC	\checkmark	×	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Bactericidal / bacteriostatic differentiation	×	×	×	×	×	\checkmark
Portable	×	×	×	×	×	\checkmark
Low upfront capital cost	\checkmark	×	×	\checkmark	×	\checkmark
Time to result	24 hours	hours to days	~3h-7h	2.5h – ≥5.5h	2h – 4h	30 min

MEET THE TEAM



Dr Magdalena Karlikowska _{CEO}

- PhD in Microbiology
- Clinical diagnostics experience, including UK Health Security Agency and NHS
- Strategy consulting and public health outreach



Dr James Stratford Co-Founder & CTO

- Strong track record of entrepreneurship at the interface of microbiology
- Inventor of 5 patents



Dr Munehiro Asally Co-Founder

- · World-leading expert in bacterial electrophysiology
- Published in prestigious journals: Nature, PNAS, eLife, and Advanced Science



Conor Edwards Co-Founder & Product Lead

- 6 years in bio-engineering
- Co-developed Cytecom's first prototype
- Expert in prototyping and supply chain



Noah Tattersall Application Development Scientist

- Biomaterial scientist
- Expert in bacterial electrophysiology



Inderpreet Kaur R&D Scientist

- · Biomedical scientist
- · Experience in clinical diagnostics



CLINICAL ADVISORY BOARD - KEY MEMBERS



Prof Michael Barer

- NHS Consultant Clinical Microbiologist
- 30 years pioneering the synergy of bacterial physiology and human infection dynamics





Dr David Jenkins

- President of BSAC (British Society for Antimicrobial chemotherapy)
- · NHS Consultant Clinical Microbiologist





Prof Keith Abrams

- · NICE Diagnostic Advisory Committee Member
- · Health Technology Assessment (HTA) expert



GO-TO-MARKET STRATEGY



£1.5 million government contract to develop rapid AMR diagnostic device in collaboration with key partners:

University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust



NIHR Cambridge Biomedical Research Centre

WARWICK

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWIG









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