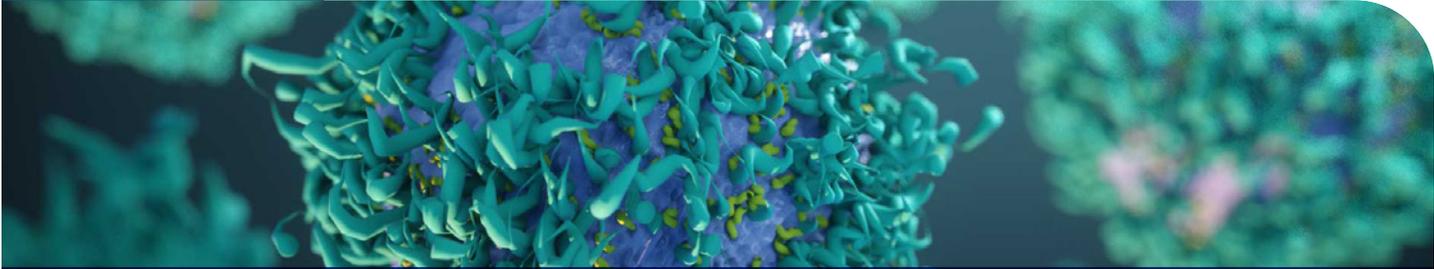


CASE STUDY


Collaborative Relationship Allows Avectas to Accelerate the Translation of SOLUPORE™ Into the Clinic

Avectas is an Ireland-based cell engineering technology company developing a unique intracellular delivery platform to enable ex vivo cell-based therapies. The company's SOLUPORE™ technology is an efficient, non-viral cell engineering solution that allows efficient transfer of cargo into cells while maintaining very high levels of cell viability and functionality.



CHALLENGE

The team at Avectas was preparing its technology for commercialization and required its non-viral cell engineering platform, SOLUPORE™, to be assessed by an experienced third party. Avectas requested support from CCRM, a Canadian centre of excellence in cell and gene therapy and a reliable partner to extend their development capacity and capabilities. CCRM also had the advantage of offering proximity to a large number of potential adopters of the SOLUPORE™ technology.

Avectas was looking to accelerate the translation of SOLUPORE™ into the clinic.



SOLUTION

Key members of the Avectas team travelled to Toronto, Canada, to meet with the CCRM team at their facility in the MaRS Centre – a unique innovation hub in the downtown core. This location is in close proximity to academics and clinicians at the University of Toronto and the city's world-class research hospitals.

“What attracted us to CCRM was the breadth of processes they have in-house, the equipment that was available, and the expertise of the team onsite,” says Lisa O’Flynn, Director of Process Development, Avectas. “Another attractive option was the fact that CCRM’s GMP facility is across the hall from

its process development labs and there’s evidence of good communication between the process development and GMP cell manufacturing teams.”

Avectas recognized that CCRM had the expertise to comprehensively evaluate and further develop the SOLUPORE™ technology, as well as collaborate to streamline the path towards commercialization.



RESULTS

At the time that CCRM’s facility was chosen as the technology transfer site, the plan was to have the Avectas team onsite to facilitate a smooth project kick-off. As luck would have it, the world was facing a pandemic and international travel restrictions prevented Avectas staff from being there in-person. Both teams took this unprecedented event in stride and managed the technology transfer virtually, in a seamless fashion, allowing them to meet Avectas’ multiple aggressive deadlines.

CCRM pivoted and adjusted to Avectas’ real-time needs during the project, generating novel high-quality data sets within a short timeframe and outside of the original scope of work. These collaborative efforts have continued and led to a fruitful partnership.

“CCRM was patient and understanding of our project and they really worked on developing a collaborative relationship with us,” says Edel O’Toole, Senior Director Project & Vendor Management, Avectas. “It almost felt like they were an extension of our team. The culture and adaptive nature, flexibility and communication were excellent. They were not afraid of a new technology platform, and were used to working on all stages of development. We would highly recommend the CCRM team to any cell and gene therapy company.”