

“Only innovation can provide long term solutions”

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The Life Science Investment Organization (LSIO) is in line with the UK Government's strategy and commercial need, building unified propositions for a number of key themes, where the UK has strengths. Dr Hakim Yaadi who in the past worked as a consultant within the Technology and Innovation practice of PA Consulting, established and managed Translational Medicine team working across the UK's academic, clinical, and industry landscape. Here are the excerpts from the interview:

Are you looking at any technology commercialization in India? Any interactions with companies or academia to identify such technologies?

Dr Hakim Yadi: Yes, it is critical to have dialogue focusing on the identification, commercialization, and implementation of novel life sciences innovations. We have already initiated dialogue with various Indian companies and are identifying the points of strength that are complementary to both the countries. This is not only about gaining access but being confident about the actual outcome that can be achieved in technological terms from it on mutual basis. I have been in touch with a consultant here, who has been working with universities, and surely we would welcome any innovation with the potential for commercialization. I feel that new innovations are the only long-term solutions in tackling the huge number of diseases that stand before us.

What are the areas of opportunity in the clinical space? How have you improved the quality and efficiency of clinical translation?

The availability of data from 50 million patients for various disease areas over generations is a big plus point. Be it the clinical trials information of 1940 or two weeks ago, we have a centralized database for that in the UK. Now for the effective use of

the same for drug development purpose we require data mining and information and communications technology expertise. I think that's where lies the strength of India which can help the UK and in return, the data availability on the Indian patients treated in UK can help the Indian drug companies. The unlocking and understanding of data come as major drivers for this market.

The UK is committed to making clinical studies more efficient by introducing the Health Research Authority to streamline approvals for clinical research and new performance metrics for patient recruitment. The UK spends more than £ 500 millions annually on the NHR infrastructure, supporting the experimental medicine research and clinical trials in the NHS, and is introducing a benchmark of 70 days or less from receipt of a valid research application to recruitment of the first participant in clinical trials. We are also committed to enable every willing patient to be a research patient and embedding this commitment in the NHS constitution, and encouraging more patients to participate in clinical research.