



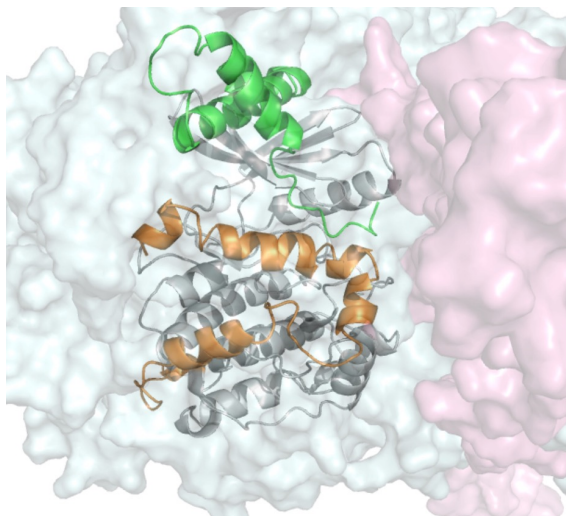
# 'Translating exceptional science into transformational therapeutics'

## SULANTRIX: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FOR VENTURE CAPITAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

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### Sulantrix Team, Oct 2025



#### Industry: Biotechnology

#### Management:

CEO: David Williams  
CSO: Patrick Evers  
CFO: Peter Woodhall  
SAB: Philip Cohen, Simon Cook, Karen Keesham, David Spring, Natarajan Kannan, Elton Zeqiraj

**Amount of Financing Sought:**  
£8M pre-seed then £25M seed

**Current Status:** Fully equipped Lab in Liverpool, where chemical screening/selectivity & biology on 6 pseudokinase targets has been performed & compound series identified with good properties & SAR

**Current Investors:** Founders, University of Liverpool

#### Summarized use of Funds:

##### Pre-seed

- Lead compound series for each of 3 pseudokinase targets with strong IP & PoC *in vivo* for at least one target. Strong disease association & selection of ideal patient clinical populations

##### Seed

- 3 lead development chemistry programs with 3 back-up targets
- 3 lead optimization programs (with back-up series)
- 2 candidates selected for GLP-tox & one other closely following

**Business Description:** Sulantrix is a therapeutics company that is focused on untargeted space around pseudoenzymes, initially centred on allosteric in pseudokinases. These hitherto discounted 'pseudo' proteins co-evolved with kinases & play key rate-limiting signaling roles that make them highly attractive disease targets. The company plans to develop breakthrough medicines for the treatment of disease indications, including (but not limited to) neurodegeneration, cardiovascular disease, cancer, fibrosis & Inflammation. Supporting our programs are linked platform technologies combining biochemistry, high-throughput screening, structural biology, AI & machine learning, which permit the discovery of new biology & chemistry. Growth of the company will be fueled by a combination of external funding, Pharma partnerships & licensing, exploiting an extensive leading academic & clinical relationships.

**USPs:** 3 new compound series targeting primary pseudokinase target outside of the canonical 'active' site plus extensive screening data against 5 other (pseudo)kinase targets involved in disease. World-leading know-how in basic & translational drug discovery science with unpublished information on target pathways.. CEO & CSO have over 200 publications & patents & have been influential in the closely-related kinase field for 30 years with Prof Evers having spent the last 10 years discovering pseudoenzyme roles in complex diseases. Combined, they are key opinion & decision makers in the field with a huge international academic & commercial network. They also have considerable track-records in fund raising, portfolio management & creating impact (exits, deals, publications & marketed drugs).

**Company Background:** Born out of Professor Pat Evers' pioneering work in the pseudoenzyme/pseudokinase fields. Having assembled a world-class scientific advisory Board, Sulantrix has been operational since Oct 2022 with a fully-equipped, dedicated laboratory based in the University of Liverpool. Work has focused on developing the company's chemical intellectual property by *in vitro* screening against a range of disease-relevant pseudokinases using diverse chemical libraries and follow-up compound validation and binding site analysis. A central strength of the company are the many collaborators in all parts of the world, which give access to specialized later-stage biology & the specific clinical expertise necessary to pursue a more agnostic, but low risk, therapeutic focus, driven by the validation of the selected molecular targets.

#### Sulantrix Leadership Team:

**David Williams (PhD):** Serial entrepreneur, founded & successfully exited 3 Biotech companies (Sareum, Discuva & Nanna Therapeutics) with additional deals signed to a value of over \$5B. 40 years in Pharma/Biotech (other companies Roche, Astellas, Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Acambis, Medivir & Summit) in multiple therapeutic areas, with over 40 clinical trial candidates & several marketed products.

**Patrick Evers (PhD):** 30 years of experience in small molecule biological research (Evers is an international leader in the pseudokinase & pseudoenzyme field, which he helped to create), Johnston Chair in Biochemistry, Professor of Cell Signalling & HoD, Biochemistry & Systems Biology, University of Liverpool.

**Peter Woodhall (FCA):** Chartered Accountant of over 30 years' standing & Partner of a Top 20 firm. Extensive experience of advising & providing services to a large range of corporate businesses; services to include mergers & acquisitions, reconstructions, taxation mitigation, financing & audit.

**Commercial Strategy:** Value in the company will be built from advancing our internal discovery & validation technology through to critical clinical value inflection points, focusing on disease indications & trial designs where Phase 2 human clinical data will give confidence in disease treatment hypothesis. In addition, when appropriate, value will be added to the therapeutic portfolio by selective partnering deals. There are 3 potential types of exit to give investors a return on investment. The first is effectively a license/sale model, where specific compound assets are sold through a subsidiary to a Pharma company (as used by Nimbus Therapeutics); the second is where the entire company is acquired by a major Pharma (e.g. acquisition of the UK company Kymab by Sanofi); such a sale could be instigated early to obtain rights around key strategic chemical IP in our new target areas (e.g. Pharmasset Inc/Gilead Sciences); the final model is a floatation on public markets, usually in the US (e.g. larger UK Biotechs, such as Bicycle Therapeutics, Nasdaq listing in 2021). Sulantrix are focused on an exit in 4-8 years & will remain open to each of these models, which will be influenced by the nature of the product(s) & the pertinent commercial climate.

**Therapeutic Strategy:** Sulantrix is target biology-focused across human pseudokinases where there is irrefutable disease target validation. We will exploit opportunities for statistically-powered human proof-of-concept clinical studies on pseudokinase targets where high translational confidence & unmet need exists.

**Competition:** An over-focus on a few targets in the kinase field means that biotech & pharma have barely scratched the surface in the context of pseudokinases & other pseudoenzyme disease-drivers. Our groundbreaking cell signaling work has revealed multiple new targets to generate small molecule therapies in these untapped areas & sets Sulantrix apart from of its competitors.

**Use of Funds:** The first pre-seed funding round being sought for 2025/6 will be £8M, which will be followed 18-months later later by a £25M seed (ideally drawn down as part of the same fund raising). Seed funds are expected to take several compounds series through candidate optimization with the lead program entering GLP-toxicity. Pre-seed funds will be used to progress 5 lead compound series for each of 3 pseudokinase targets with strong IP & PoC *in vivo* for at least one target, whilst also identifying key patient populations through use of subscription-based biobanks.

**Scientific Advisory Board (SAB):** Sulantrix has established a world-leading SAB. Their biographies are:

**Philip Cohen** As former Director of the MRC-PPU & Wellcome Trust Centre at the University of Dundee, Sir Philip is widely recognized for his scientific prescience, winning the Queens Anniversary Prize for creation of the Division of Signal Transduction Therapy. He also sits on the SABs of Ubiquigent & Mission.

**Simon Cook** began his postdoctoral career working at Onyx Pharma with founder Frank McCormick, where he began studying therapeutic targeting of the RAS/RAF onco-network. Since moving to the BBSRC-funded Babraham Institute in Cambridge in 1997, he has held several senior roles, including Head of Knowledge Exchange & Commercialisation, culminating in his appointment as Director in 2021.

**David Spring** is Professor of Organic chemistry at the University of Cambridge, where he drives the exploration of chemical space for biological drug discovery. David founded the Cambridge spin-out company Pharmenable, & was a member of the Nanna Therapeutics SAB 2019-2020.

**Natarajan Kannan** is Professor of Informatics at UGA, & a leader in the application of informatics & computational modelling to reveal how proteins work in health & disease. Kannan's computational & AI-based analysis of kinases, pseudokinases & glycosyltransferases extend across all kingdoms of life.

**Karen Keeshan** is Reader in Leukaemia Research at the Paul O'Gorman Leukaemia Research Centre, in the Institute of Cancer Sciences, University of Glasgow. She works with clinical colleagues where she is translating collaborative scientific advances into AML clinical practice.

**Elton Zeqiraj** is a Sir Henry Dale Fellow & structural biology at the University of Leeds, working on large molecular structures involved in cell signalling who solved the first pseudokinase complex structure (STRAD/LKB1/MO25). Elton is also the founder of JAMM Therapeutics.

#### Key Founder publications related to this proposal & IP:

1. Shrestha S, Byrne DP, Harris JA, Kannan N & Evers PA (2020) Cataloguing the dead: breathing new life into pseudokinase research. *The FEBS Journal*. 287:4150.
2. Ribeiro AIM, et al., & Zeqiraj E, Murphy JM & Evers PA (2019) Emerging concepts in pseudoenzyme classification, evolution & signalling. *Science Signaling* 12 eaat9797.
3. Kwon A et al., Evers PA & Kannan N (2019) Tracing the origin & evolution of pseudokinases across the tree of life. *Science Signaling* 12(578).
4. Foulkes DM, Byrne DP, et al & Evers CE, Zuercher W, Kannan N & Evers PA (2018) Covalent inhibitors of EGFR family protein kinase inhibitors induce degradation of human Tribbles 2 pseudokinase (TRIB2) in cancer cells. *Science Signaling*, 11, eaat7951.
5. Murphy JM, Mace PD & Evers PA (2017) Live & Let Die: insights into pseudoenzyme mechanisms from structure. *Current Opinion in Structural Biology* 47:95-104.