AstraZeneca launches health innovation hub in Wuxi

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In partnership with the Wuxi Government, AstraZeneca celebrated the official opening of the Wuxi International Life Science Innovation Campus (I·Campus) and marked the signing of the first partners and initial 10 companies to join the campus.

Situated in the Wuxi National High-tech District in Jiangsu, China, I·Campus brings together innovative 4D (Drug, Device, Diagnosis and Digital) companies, government, and medical and academic institutions together via an open collaboration platform, helping to accelerate healthcare innovation and sciences in China.

I·Campus is a priority for the local Wuxi Government, and is predicted to attract more than 50 innovative companies over the next three years. AstraZeneca's experiences in China, and its other five iDREAM hubs across Emerging Markets, have helped to develop the pioneering Wuxi concept.

The opening ceremony was marked by the signing of the first group of partners to the I·Campus, including the UK BioIndustry Association (BIA), the Indian National Association for Software and Services companies (NASSCOM), the Russian Skolkovo Institute for Science & Technology and the Hong Kong Society for Innovative Healthcare.

The first 10 companies joining the I·Campus were also announced – they include Japanese medical equipment company Omron, Chinese clinical trial company Tigermed, British early cancer screening company Abcodia, British medical device company ClearSky, Hong Kong oncogene test company Sanomics, Russian natural linguistic analysis company Semantic Hub, Chinese Taiwan medicine transmission platform company HCmed, and Indian healthcare AI company Tricog.

With this new hub for attracting top domestic and overseas talent, as well as investment and advancement in cutting-edge fields such as AI and Big Data, I·Campus is expected to become the beating heart of Wuxi's international life science cluster.

AstraZeneca's Wuxi innovation story began back in 2017 with the creation of the Healthcare Internet of Things Innovation

Center, established to explore innovative new treatment options and to seek out opportunities for integrating digital solutions into the patient journey. In 2018, AstraZeneca set out to build a global innovative sciences network – the first implementation of its incubation initiative on the Chinese mainland.

Earlier this year, at the 2019 Boao Forum, Asia Annual Conference, in partnership with the Wuxi municipal government, AstraZeneca announced the development of this Wuxi International Life Science Innovation Campus(I·Campus), with an aim to nurture innovation and create a world-class healthcare innovation ecosystem.

The official launch of I·Campus is a defining moment, uniting stakeholders from around the world to confront challenges to pharmaceuticals and diagnostics, as well as digitalisation and technology.