

Press release: Innovate UK welcomes global firm to Cell & Gene Catapult centre

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Innovate UK, part of UK Research and Innovation, welcomed today the announcement that immunotherapy company, TCR2 Therapeutics, is to become the first US organisation to work with the [Cell and Gene Therapy \(CGT\) Catapult at its Stevenage manufacturing centre](#). TCR2 has selected the facility to establish a site for global manufacturing and capability development to advance novel T cell receptor therapies for patients suffering from cancer.

Dr Ian Campbell, Interim Executive Chair, Innovate UK said:

By choosing to work with the Cell & Gene Therapy Catapult manufacturing centre, TCR2 Therapeutics demonstrates to the world that the UK is a global leader in this sector. Advanced cell and gene therapies show great promise in treating conditions such as cancer. It is vital to support research and development that could result in huge improvements in patient outcomes.

Boosted by investment through the government's modern Industrial Strategy and the life sciences sector deal, the UK can realise both the commercial and societal benefits from these advances in this vital and thriving sector.

Dr Kath Mackay, Interim Director – Ageing Society, Health & Nutrition, Innovate UK, added:

The decision by TCR2 Therapeutics to establish a presence at the Cell & Gene Therapy Catapult manufacturing centre is a major international vote of confidence in the UK life sciences sector.

The Cell and Gene Therapy Catapult manufacturing centre is a world-leading facility, bringing the manufacture of pioneering treatments closer to patients. The decision recognises the level and maturity of government investment into UK manufacturing capability and the associated supply chain.

UK Research and Innovation, through the government's Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund, backs this crucial component of the modern Industrial Strategy, building the jobs and industries of tomorrow. We have underlined our support by also funding three new Advanced Therapy Treatment Centres to complement the work of the manufacturing centre. Working across the UK, this network will support the roll-out of cell and gene therapies, bringing together expert clinicians, researchers, scientists, developers and private companies to demonstrate the benefits for patients.

The CGT Catapult manufacturing centre in Stevenage, opened in April 2018, is backed by more than £60 million of government investment, including funding from Innovate UK and the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund (ISCF). TCR2 joins advanced therapy companies Adaptimmune, Autolus, Cell Medica, and Freeline.

Working with the manufacturing centre are the three UK [Advanced Therapies Treatment Centres](#), which were awarded £21 million in through the ISCF Medicines Manufacturing challenge. The centres are collaborative ventures between industry, academic and NHS partners. They comprise the Innovate Manchester Advanced Therapy Centre Hub (iMATCH), the Midlands-Wales Advanced Therapy Treatment Centre (MW-ATTC, comprising Birmingham, Wales and Nottingham) and the Northern Alliance Advanced Therapies Treatment Centre (NAATTC, comprising Scotland, Newcastle and Leeds).

[Press release: Highways England footage shows dangers of driving too close](#)

Dramatic new footage released shows the dangers of driving too close as motorists are urged to #staysafestayback while travelling on England's motorway network.

Press release: Highways England footage shows dangers of driving too close

The clip – captured by one of the dashcams in a Highways England patrol vehicle on the M6 in Cheshire – shows how quickly an incident can happen if motorists don't leave plenty of space between themselves and the vehicle in front.

The footage shows several cars braking sharply and one being struck by a HGV as an unrelated incident unfolds up ahead of travelling traffic.

[Highways England – Dangers of driving too close!](#)

Highways England's Head of Road Safety Richard Leonard said:

This footage is a startling reminder about the dangers of driving too closely to the vehicle in front.

It clearly shows that if you get too close to the car in front, you won't be able to react and stop in time if they suddenly brake.

We also know that tailgating makes the driver in front feel targeted and victimised, distracting their attention from the road ahead and making them more likely to make a mistake.

It is intimidating and frightening if you're on the receiving end. If that leads to a collision, then people in both vehicles could end up seriously injured or killed. We want everyone to get home safe and well.

If you wonder whether you are 'space invading', then remember the Highway Code, which says that drivers should allow at least a two second gap, which should be doubled on wet roads. If you are tailgated, then avoid speeding up, slowing down or staring in the rear-view mirror. Reduce the risk to yourself by driving normally, signalling clearly and allowing people to overtake.

A survey by Highways England reveals that tailgating is the biggest single bugbear that drivers have about other road users. And in-car research – using dashcams, facial recognition, emotion tracking and heart monitors – reveals that a driver's typical reaction to someone who tailgates them is surprise, anger and contempt, with a spike in heart rate.

Nearly 9 out of 10 people say they have either been tailgated or seen it. And more than a quarter of drivers admitted to tailgating.

The campaign has won the support of several high-profile advocates including

Formula 1 world champion Nigel and Mansell and former TopGear 'Stig' Ben Collins.

Ben – best known for his role on BBC motoring show TopGear as the 'tame' racing driver in the white suit – has coached hundreds of celebrities from Tom Cruise to Lionel Richie around the race-track and is also a championship winning Le Mans racing driver.

He says motorists should make sure they leave plenty of distance between themselves and the vehicle in front because driving too closely can hinder braking distances and visibility of incidents up ahead.

Highways England has a [dedicated website](#) offering advice on how to drive safely if people find themselves the victim of tailgating.

General enquiries

Members of the public should contact the Highways England customer contact centre on 0300 123 5000.

Media enquiries

Journalists should contact the Highways England press office on 0844 693 1448 and use the menu to speak to the most appropriate press officer.

Press release: New powers to investigate stillbirths

Bereaved parents who suffer a stillbirth would gain answers from an independent inquest into their baby's death under plans to improve the way such tragedies are investigated.