



Overview

Singapore, recognized as a dynamic hub for life sciences and biomedical research, stands at the forefront of advancing scientific breakthroughs and fostering innovation. The city-state magnetizes entrepreneurs, scientists, and innovators, buoyed by its strategic location, state-of-the-art infrastructure, and its role as a haven for the world's most prestigious medical research establishments.

Several years ago, Johnson & Johnson Innovation noticed the immense potential held by Singapore as a thriving hub for life science and MedTech innovation. Launching our inaugural QuickFire Challenge in the region marked our initial foray into the city-state's innovation landscape. It was during this momentous initiative that we discovered the exceptional nature of this locale – a place where revolutionary ideas are transformed into tangible scientific breakthroughs.

As a preeminent startup ecosystem, it has established itself as a prime sanctuary for companies dedicated to nurturing and catalyzing innovation aimed at propelling healthcare advancements, much like Johnson & Johnson Innovation. Seeing the incredible potential in Singapore, we launched our new universal JLABS model in the region in collaboration with the Economic Development Board (EDB), which aims to leverage JLABS services and innovation resources to boost the innovation output.

Embracing this first-of-its-kind strategic collaboration, we want to provide a platform for innovators from around the globe to join JLABS Singapore and we are proud to launch the **Singapore QuickFire Challenge**. Innovators from across the globe who have an active interest in the Singapore innovation ecosystem are invited to submit groundbreaking ideas, technologies, or solutions aiming to improve the trajectory of health outcomes for patients. The innovator(s) with the best potential solution can

receive grant funding from a total pool of \$100,000, access to the global Johnson & Johnson Innovation - JLABS network, and mentorship from experts across the Johnson & Johnson. *

** Subject to terms and conditions of applicable QuickFire Challenge and execution of an award agreement*

Why this Challenge Matters to Us

The ascent of Singapore's biotechnology landscape has been remarkable, with biotech companies surging from seven in 2012 to 52 in 2022. This growth can be attributed to its seamless access to Asian markets and its standing as the world's third-leading financial center. This status ensures the availability of venture capital funding and government incentives which aid in the enhancement of the ecosystem. Incentives and investments play a pivotal role in nurturing medical innovation and production, propelling Singapore's life science and MedTech industry to unparalleled heights.

The city-state's unparalleled ability to attract top tier biotech entrepreneurs and scientists from across the globe is reinforced by its commitment to addressing critical therapeutic disease areas and its strong affiliations with renowned medical institutions globally. That is why we are continuing our commitment to the ecosystem with the Singapore QuickFire Challenge.

Our continued commitment to invest in Singapore's life science ecosystem is an affirmation of our unwavering dedication to scientific progress and healthcare excellence. By embracing Singapore's thriving ecosystem, government backing, collaborative avenues and global health impact, we will continue to pioneer and uplift healthcare standards, shaping the trajectory of the future of life sciences.

What We're Looking For

We are interested in groundbreaking ideas, technologies, or solutions across the spectrum of healthcare innovation aimed at changing the trajectory of health outcomes for patients. Applications should be aimed at advancing innovation within Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine's and MedTech strategic areas of interest which includes specific areas in the following sectors below.

Therapeutics:

- Oncology
- Immunology
- Neuroscience
- Cardiovascular, Metabolism, Retina, & Pulmonary Hypertension
- Infectious Diseases & Vaccines

MedTech:

- Orthopedics
- Surgical
- Cardiovascular, Stroke and Specialty Solutions
- Eye Health/ Vision

Data Science and Digital Health Technologies:

- AI/ML discovery technologies
- AI/ ML and digital health technology to enhance clinical development, precision medicine and evidence generation

Criteria

Potential solutions will be evaluated by a panel of reviewers and judges on their ability to meet the following criteria:

- Uniqueness of the idea
- Clearly defined molecular target(s) and mechanism of action for therapeutics
- Potential impact on human health
- Feasibility of the idea and supporting data
- Company is incorporated (or have plans to incorporate)
- Thoroughness of approach
- Identification of key resources and a plan to further the idea
- Quality and capabilities of team
- Interests in the Singapore innovation ecosystem

Note: In accordance with healthcare compliance guidelines, while all potential applicants are encouraged to apply, unfortunately those that are Health Care Providers (“HCPs”), Government Officials (“GOs”) or any organization affiliated with either, including but not limited to not-for-profits and NGO entities, will be subjected to additional review and may not be ultimately eligible to participate or to receive the award.

Awards

The innovator(s) with the best potential solution can receive grant funding from a total pool of \$100,000, access to the global Johnson & Johnson Innovation - JLABS network, and mentorship from experts across the Johnson & Johnson family of Companies.*

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About

About Johnson & Johnson Innovation

Johnson & Johnson Innovation works across the pharmaceutical and medtech sectors to accelerate early-stage, transformational solutions by catalyzing the best ideas, wherever they are in the world. We do this by harnessing our deep scientific capabilities

coupled with a wide range of tools, including customized deal structures, company creation, incubation and startup services, capital investments and other innovative business models that aim to meet the diverse needs of entrepreneurs, scientists, and emerging companies. Our goal is to help life science and health technology innovations thrive through collaboration and partnership with the global ecosystem, so that together we can change the trajectory of human health. Meet our passionate team of science and technology experts and learn how to collaborate with us at www.jnjinnovation.com

Please contact the University of South Florida Technology Transfer office representative for submission - Roisin McNally at rmcnally@usf.edu.