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NEWSLETTER

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Converging Minds.
Transforming Medicine.
The Next Wave of
MedTech Solutions

**InnoHK ABIC:
The Dynamic Platform
Where Scientific Rigor Meets
Strategic Commercialization
to Transform Promising
Discoveries into Scalable
Healthcare Solutions**



ABIC Pitching Corner

A Flagship Convergence Where Scientific Breakthroughs Meet Venture Insights

From Vision to Venture
“ **MULTIPLE TALENTS.
ONE SHARED PURPOSE.
COUNTLESS POSSIBILITIES.** ”



Scientific discoveries achieve maximum value when visionary research integrates with a supportive ecosystem.



The InnoHK Advanced Biomedical Instrumentation Centre (ABIC) successfully hosted its flagship “Pitching Corner Final 2025” on 10 December at Soho House, creating a united platform where promising innovations advanced one step closer to clinical translation and commercialization.

Held within Soho House’s exclusive membership space, known for convening global leaders across business and innovation communities, the Pitching Corner provided a private yet constructive environment for meaningful exchange, bringing together venture capital leaders, industry partners, clinicians, technology transfer experts, and academic pioneers.

Ideas Ready for Impact

The venue offered a unique setting where scientific ideas could be discussed openly, practically, and at eye level with potential partners. The commercialization showcase featured eight outstanding research projects addressing critical healthcare needs with strong translational promise:



(1) real-time stress monitoring; (2) nasal spray for rapid stroke rescue; (3) magnetic-guided probiotics for oral health; (4) inhaled probiotics for respiratory immunity; (5) next-generation Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) for early cancer detection; (6) AI-driven human milk analytics for vulnerable infants; (7) nanofiber implants with rapid pain relief; (8) magnetic-guided probiotics for oral health; and (9) biomaterials that treat dry eye disease.



Where Conversations Become Opportunity

The pitching sessions were followed by lively discussions and networking, during which partners and stakeholders shared positive feedback and expressed clear interest in advancing follow-up meetings, exploring joint development, and assessing investment potential, reflecting strong confidence in both the science and teams behind the projects.

With sincere thanks to all esteemed speakers, partners, and guests for contributing to the vibrant success at Pitching Corner, ABIC looks forward to nurturing the momentum and connections built at Soho House into meaningful collaborations and long-term medical impact, bridging frontier discoveries with deployment solutions.

BUILDING THE NEXT CHAPTER

A new 5-year chapter in biomedical innovation began with the “Strategic Innovation Collaboration Ceremony” on 24 November 2025, celebrating a pivotal milestone as ABIC enters its next phase of scientific and translational development. Held at HKSTP, the ceremony reaffirms the Centre’s mission to integrate world-class research with industrialization strategies, foster collaborative excellence, and build sustainable pipelines for biomedical instrumentation.



The landmark ceremony brought together esteemed guests from Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC), Hong Kong Science & Technology Park (HKSTP), Research Institute of Tsinghua University in Shenzhen (RITS), and Surrich International Company Limited (Surrich), alongside academic scholars from Harvard University, Technical University of Munich (TUM), University of Hong Kong (HKU), to forge deeper partnerships and accelerate the commercialization of high-impact innovations.

Strategic Translational Milestones

Strategic Signing Ceremony with RITS: Advance the industrial development of ABIC’s Brain-Computer Interface Project, strengthening Hong Kong-Shenzhen scientific synergy.



‘ABIC-Wuxi Co-Innovation Centre’ Commencement: In collaboration with Wuxi Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Centre, dedicated to accelerating technology translation and industry deployment.

ABIC-Incubated Innovation Project Showcases: AxileLife, Inhalixir, IVECS, and Multera demonstrated ABIC’s diverse impact from fertility care and respiratory therapeutics to ophthalmic treatments and PCR microfluidics diagnostics.

Who Makes ABIC Possible
Sincerest gratitude was extended to ABIC visionary leadership, including Prof. Anderson Shum, Prof. Paddy Chan, Prof. David Weitz, Prof. Andreas Bausch, and all PIs. Institutional support from ITC and HKSTP was acknowledged through Mr. Philip Har, Ms. Winnie Chan, and Ms. Sara Lo, and their representatives. Partners from RITS, Prof. Liu Renchen,



“Another important step built upon the dedication of visionary leaders, partners and supporters. ”

Mr. Wen Songjia, Mr. Cao Tengfei, Mr. Zhu Peihao, Ms. Qian Linghan, and from Surrich, Mr. Peng Yanbao, Mr. Lin Sen, Mr. Ding Fangzhou, Ms. Zhao Qiuge, Mr. Lu Zhimao, were also recognized for their commitment to building impactful innovation pipelines with ABIC.

Precision Without Borders

“ More accurate, personalized, and ultimately more effective for patients.”

Co-hosted with Department of Clinical Oncology, School of Clinical Medicine, HKU LKS Faculty of Medicine, supported by Hong Kong College of Radiologists, and co-organized with HKSTP, the InnoHK ABIC International Seminar “Integrating in Precision Oncology: Challenges and Opportunities” was successfully held at HKSTP @ Wheelock Gallery on 20 September 2025.

The seminar convened a distinguished lineup of world-leading oncologists and scientists to exchange and explore new frontiers in cancer research. The program was accredited with 2 (Cat. A) CME/CPD points for both FHKAM (Radiology) and non-FHKCR specialists.



Prof. Victor Lee (Chair), Chairperson and Clinical Professor of Department of Clinical Oncology at HKU



Prof. Andreas Bausch, Full Professor of Cellular Biophysics at TUM



Prof. Maximilian Reichert, Head of Interdisciplinary Tumor Outpatient Clinic at TUM School of Medicine and Health



Prof. Giuseppe Curigliano, President-Elect of European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO)

Bridging Discovery and Clinical Practice

Interactive discussion sessions fostered expert dialogues to highlight the pressing need for multidisciplinary collaboration in addressing in-field challenges. Topics ranged from emerging advances in liquid biopsy and organoid development to precision oncology therapies and translational pathways.

Together, ABIC remains steadfast in shaping high-impact exchanges, forging an integrated ecosystem that accelerates advancements in cancer diagnosis, treatment, and patient outcomes.



Where Curiosity Meets Discovery

“Every breakthrough begins with curiosity and the courage to explore something new.”

Scientific progress requires both groundbreaking research and systematic cultivation of future talent. On 7 November 2025, ABIC hosted a delegation of young scientists from the 2nd “Hong Kong Laureate Forum” for an immersive laboratory visit at the Centre, offering an exceptional opportunity to engage directly with forefront biomedical instrumentation and translational medicine.

Connecting World-Class Expertise

The Hong Kong Laureate Forum is a world-class academic exchange platform that brings together distinguished scientists and emerging talents to promote dialogues across disciplines. Shaw Laureates and leading researchers spent 4 days in Hong Kong interacting with ~200 outstanding young scientists from >30 countries and regions.

As part of this program, the ABIC site visit provided young scientists with first-hand insights into frontier biomedical instrumentation research and its pathways toward real-world impact, advancing the Forum’s objective to bridge generations of scientists and cultivate cross-cultural collaboration.



Nurturing Future Scientists

The Forum is fully sponsored by Lee Shau Kee Foundation, whose long-standing commitment to education, talent development, and social well-being has supported generations of scholars in Hong Kong, China, and beyond. The program also celebrates the legacy of the Shaw Prize, a globally respected award recognizing outstanding

contributors in Astronomy, Life Science and Medicine, and Mathematical Sciences, with many later becoming Nobel Prize, Fields Medal, Lasker, and Abel Prize recipients. ABIC is proud to be part of this international exchange, dedicated to inspiring early-career scientists and reinforcing the Centre’s growing role within the biotechnology and innovation ecosystem.

AI Promise for New Beginnings
AxileLife Redefines AI-Driven Fertility
Diagnostics at APEHC 2025

Artificial Intelligence is reshaping reproductive medicine to provide objective, standardized, and data-driven assessments. Our Postdoctoral Fellow, Dr. Michelle Lo, CEO and Co-founder of AxileLife Limited, an ABIC-incubated spin-off, delivered an invited talk at the 8th Asia Pacific eHealth Conference (APEHC) on 27 November 2025, introducing how digital health platforms optimize fertility care workflows through AI, advanced imaging, and microfluidics engineering.

“ For many, ART is the only option. We are here to ensure that this one last chance is also their best chance ”

The Conference was co-organized by Hong Kong Society of Medical Informatics, eHealth Consortium & HL7 Hong Kong. As a distinguished speaker at the symposium

“ What’s Next in HealthTech: From Novelty to Necessity in Patient Care ”

Dr. Lo illustrated her visionary AI-driven invention in Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART), highlighting pioneering breakthroughs in label-free cellular profiling and deep learning algorithms validated on large-scale clinical datasets.

Intelligence for Fertility

The innovative platform was clinically translated and implemented at Queen Mary Hospital, Kwong Wah Hospital, and HKU-Shenzhen Hospital in early 2026. Dr. Michelle Lo’s insights reflect ABIC’s mission to bridge empirical healthcare practices and precision medicine. As the Asia Pacific region advances toward integrated digital health frameworks, AI-enhanced fertility diagnostics are rapidly becoming an essential clinical standard.

The organizing committee is highly commended for convening a meaningful platform that catalyzed thought-provoking dialogues across academia, industry, and government. Congratulations to Dr. Lo for representing ABIC and Hong Kong, China on an international stage, advancing the development of precise and accessible reproductive healthcare worldwide.



Dr. Michelle Lo represented ABIC to deliver an invited presentation at APEHC titled “Transforming Fertility Care: AI-Driven Innovation in Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART)”.



[From Left to Right] Dr. Michelle Lo, Chief Executive Officer, AxileLife Limited; Moderator Mr. William Chan, Governor, HL7 HK and Chief Information Officer, CUHK Medical Centre; Ms. Ruoqi Zhao, Shenzhen Institute of Advanced Technology (SIAT), Chinese Academy of Sciences; Mr. Anthony Cheung, Head of IT, Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital.

FROM CONCEPT TO CURE



“ We wish to put hope in the hands of individuals, more prepared for possible medical emergencies. ”

Clinical intervention timelines are critical during ischemic stroke, where rapid treatment directly determines the threshold between neurological recovery and permanent disability. The InnoHK ABIC research team—Prof. Aviva Chow, Dr. Zitong Shao, Prof. Gary Lau, Ms. Winnie Zhou and Ms. Jocelyn Deng—was named the **Winner of HKUMedXelerate** for their project: **“Revolutionizing Pre-hospital Ischemic Stroke Management: NanoPowder Nasal Spray”** on 24 October 2025, recognizing the translational readiness of their breakthrough technology.

Built on a patented, scalable manufacturing platform, the award-winning technology features a portable nanoneurotherapeutic intranasal spray designed to deliver neuroprotective agents directly via nose-to-brain delivery, bypassing the blood-brain barrier. The flagship product is formulated with precise particle size control and consistent quality, creating an affordable, accessible, and effective first-aid option for ischemic stroke. Validated by a decade of research development, this approach enables early intervention in pre-hospital emergency settings during the highly time-critical phases.



Powered by Clinical Versatility

Beyond acute stroke management, the platform is designed to be stable, redispersible and versatile, with the potential to deliver small molecules, biologics, and traditional Chinese medicines. The team is progressing toward partnerships and licensing opportunities in Hong Kong and the Chinese Mainland to accelerate commercial development and clinical validation.

The project team is warmly congratulated on this exceptional distinction, solidifying ABIC's continued commitment in alignment with the HKU LKS Faculty of Medicine to combine funding, mentorship, and commercialization pathways that bridge scientific excellence and real-world healthcare impact.

