

Simon TUCKER

Chief Virologist & Head of Clinical Development



Dr Simon Tucker is an internationally recognized virologist with decades of pharmaceutical R&D management experience.

He previously led teams at GD Searle (US) focused on new antivirals including influenza and HIV, where he was a member of the team responsible for the discovery of the HIV protease inhibitor, amprenavir. He subsequently led the Gene Therapy Group at the University of Glasgow (UK), before joining Biota Pharmaceuticals, a world-leading antiviral developer and originators of the NA class of influenza antivirals, amongst other discoveries. As Vice President of Research at Biota he oversaw the research and IP protocols, managed the R&D strategy and execution, and was directly involved in multiple licensing deals, collaborative projects with major pharmaceutical companies and the discovery and progression of clinical candidates. He led the teams that discovered zanamivir (Relenza), the world's first neuraminidase inhibitor for treatment of influenza, as well as the world's first point of care diagnostic test for influenza A and B.

He also presided over the discovery and development of candidate drugs for the common cold (Vapendavir), RSV and hepatitis C. He is founder and former CEO at 360biolabs and is currently Chairman of Jumpstart-Fertility, an international biotech focused on drugs to address female infertility.