



University of Colorado Biomedical Proof of Concept Program

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The University of Colorado:

- Three campuses: Boulder, Denver (Anschutz Medical Campus and Downtown Denver) and Colorado Springs
- System level Technology Transfer Office (TTO) provides IP and licensing services to all three campuses
- CU's total enrollment is ~58,000 (~ 12,000 graduate, 80% Colorado resident)
- In FY 2009, CU garnered \$711M in research: 60% biomedical related, and over 75% from federal sources

The Realities of University IP Creation:

- Most faculty research is “curiosity driven.” Investigators optimize their research for publication and to secure further funding (mostly federal) as determined by scientific peer review – not commercial review. Therefore, inventions seldom occur within a context of a well-defined market problem.
- Typically the IP is incomplete, unrefined, and years from market application.
- Faculty do not receive near-term rewards for technology transfer performance, but they understand that to create clinical impact securing IP is essential.
- Small amounts of maturation funding can make a big difference for adopter company acceptance.

Technology Maturation through Proof of Concept Programs:

- Basic Concept – validate the technology proposition by aligning technology drivers with market drivers, thereby accelerating commercialization and increasing prospects for commercial adoption = increase in economic value.
- Maximum impact on the portfolio by focusing on platform or core technologies; maximum impact on the technology by focusing on the key value inflection point(s).
- Inflection point defined by development step(s) necessary to reduce the risk profile for the next participant in the value chain, thereby increasing their propensity to adopt.

Overview of POC Programs: POC Program Processes:

1. TTO Proof of Concept grant (POCg)

- Funds for technology development of inventions in order to augment patent claims and enhance commercial adoption.
- \$10k to \$25k direct grant to inventor (zero F&A charge).
- Total TTO POCg biomedical grants since 9/05 = \$661,221 awarded for projects (\$40,362 returned).

2. State Biotechnology POC grant (POCsbg)

- Funds for development of therapeutic, diagnostic and medical device inventions to advance development and prepare for licensing to Colorado companies (mainly start-ups).
- State provides half the funds, University provides the other half; max \$200k/project (8% F&A cost, per State requirement).
- Three years of funding with three additional years budgeted.
- Total first three year biomedical grants = \$5,267,703 awarded.

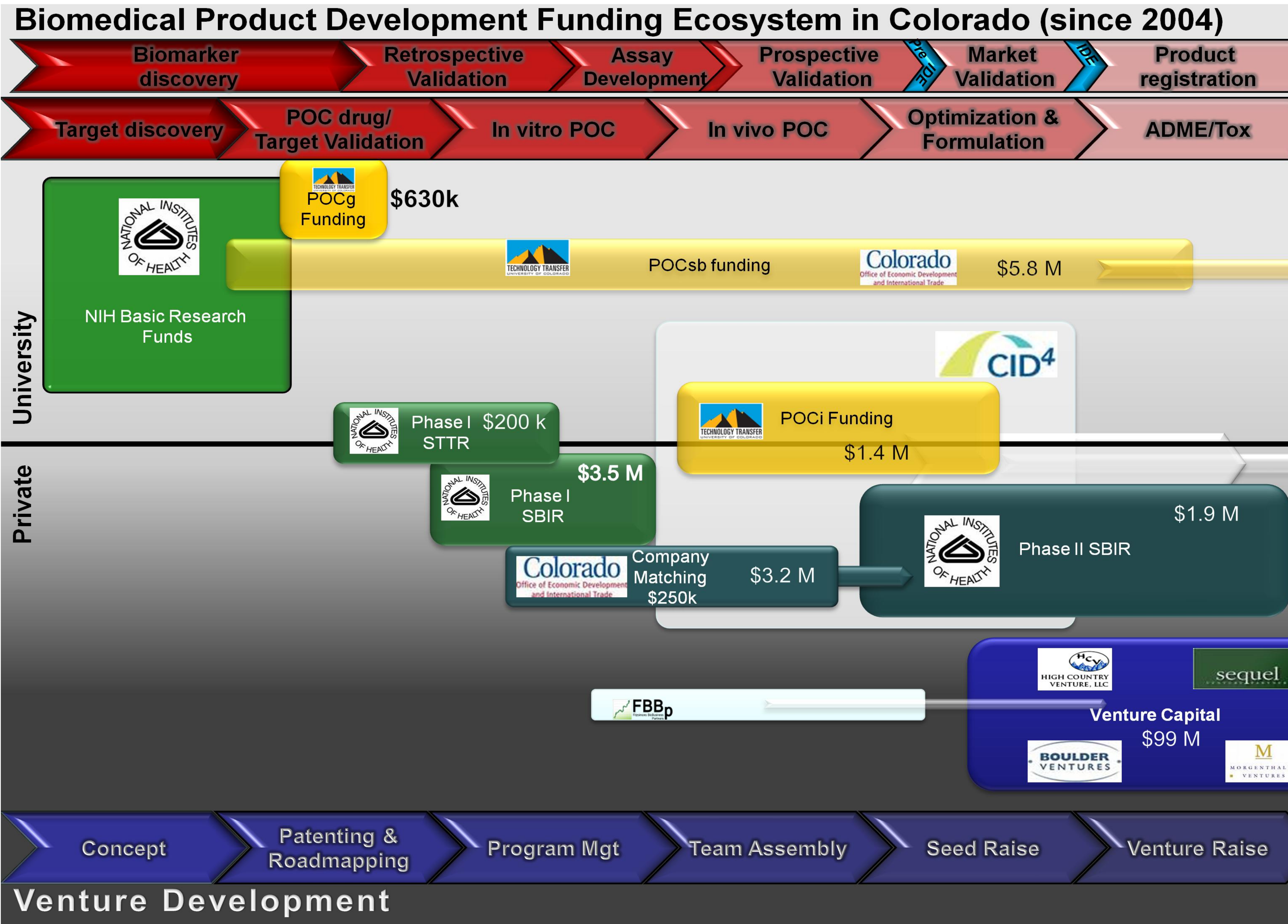
3. TTO Proof of Concept Investment (POCi)

- Funds for technology development to establish/ advance commercial viability for promising start-up biomedical companies that have optioned/licensed CU technology.
- \$100K convertible debt investments (loan) per company; loan converts to preferred stock upon qualified investor round of financing (typically VC “A” round).
- Requirements: compelling business plan, business driver (entrepreneur) working in company and with CU inventor, and good prospects for securing additional capital.
- \$1,259,987 invested in biomedical companies.

CU Technology Transfer Over the Past Seven Years

Fiscal Year	02-3	03-4	04-5	05-6	06-7	07-8	08-9
Invention disclosures	124	147	177	198	254	235	258
U.S. patent apps filed	82	100	139	125	156	193	206
Total options/licenses	34	47	59	57	75	58	61
Exclusive options/licenses	13	19	22	36	38	44	50
License revenue in \$MM*	3.1	5.8	21.7	20.6	22.7	6.1	4.4
Start-up companies	6	9	9	10	10	11	11

*does not include revenue derived from legal settlements which in FY2003-4 amounted to \$28.1M, in FY2004-5 \$6.7M, in FY 2005-6 \$7.7M, and in FY2006-07 \$1.3M.



Preliminary POC Performance Metrics:

1. Proof of Concept grant (POCg)

- 35 projects, 16 options and licenses executed
- 5 projects deemed non-viable, 14 of the available projects still viable for commercialization

2. State Biotechnology POC grant (POCsbg)

- 34 projects, 6 options and licenses executed

- No projects deemed non-viable, 28 of the available projects still viable for commercialization

3. Proof of Concept Investment (POCi)

- 14 investments and 11 companies still viable
- Of the 3 companies that failed, IP relicensed in 2 cases

Some Lessons Learned:

- Maturation money induces inventions and brings out good technology.
- Early-stage domain/investment expert volunteers conducting evaluations provide objective basis for selection.
- Pre-submission review and advice (building a roadmap) helps ensure a commercial proposition for the project.
- Presentation coaching improves delivery to evaluators.
- Feedback to non-selected applicants improves subsequent application quality.
- TTO support induces others to provide financial support.
- Match funding induces broader financial participation.
- Preliminary evidence strongly suggests that maturation programs enhance licensee adoption and development.

A New Paradigm for Technology Transfer Offices

What the best already do well:

- Identify commercial assets embedded in scientific research results
- Secure patents to protect those assets
- Execute fair and timely license agreements

What are emerging as new core competencies:

- Building relationships with key players in technology entrepreneurial networks and investment value chains
- Make relatively modest Proof of Concept grants and investments to validate technology and align with commercial drivers identified by pre-product roadmaps