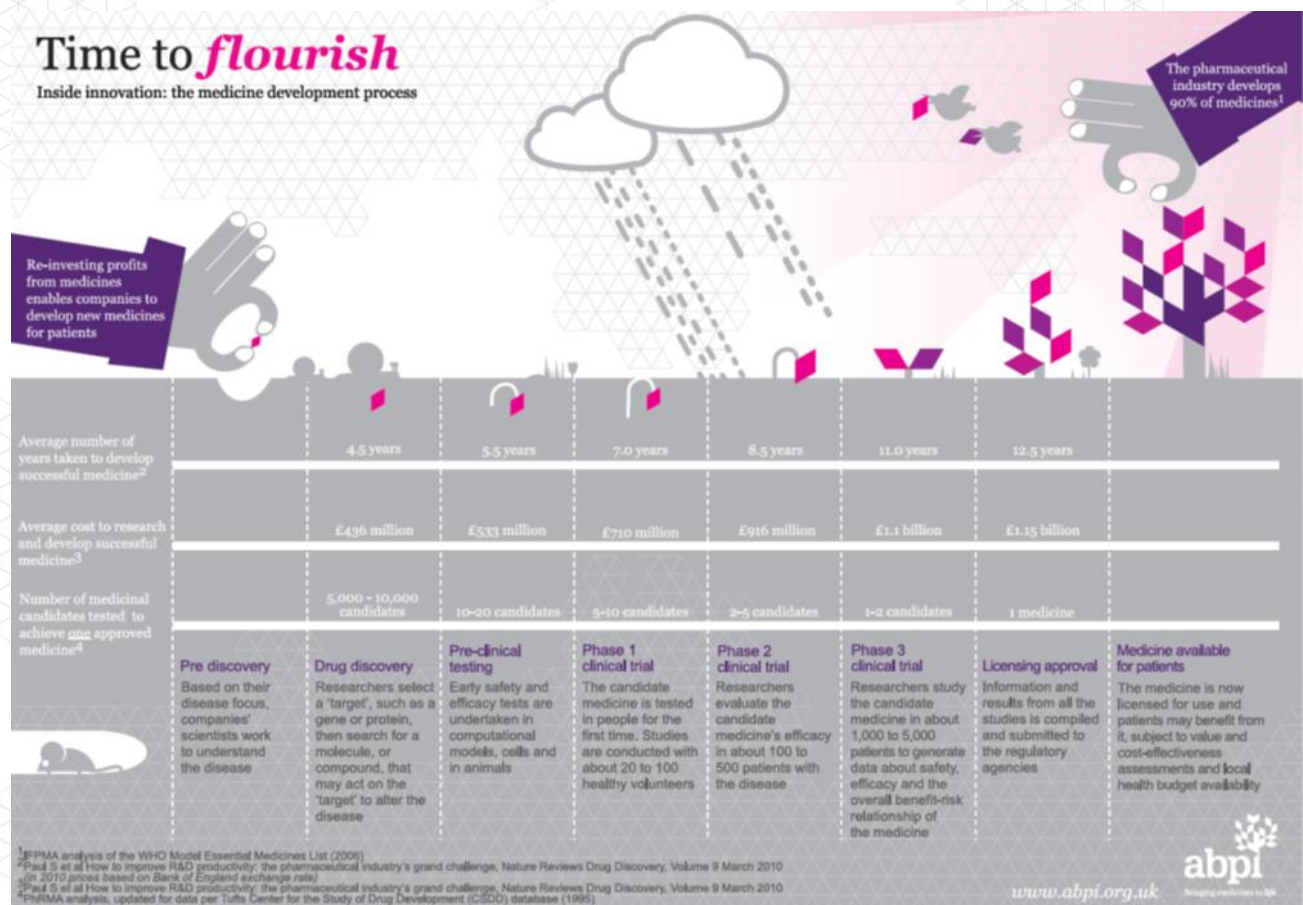


What is R&D?

Research and Development (R&D) is the term applied to the discovery, development, enhancement and delivery of medicines.

On average, it takes 12 years and more than £1 billion¹ to develop a new medicine and make it available to patients in the UK. This achievement relies on the skills and expertise of many people: from scientists and researchers to patients and nurses. The research and development of medicines is complex and always evolving.

The medicine development process



¹ Paul S, Nature Reviews Drug Discovery 9 203-214 (March 2010) | doi:10.1038/nrd3078 In 2010 prices based on Bank of England exchange rate

Hay M, Thomas DW, Craighead JL, Economides C, Rosenthal J. Clinical development success rates for investigational drugs. Nat Biotechnol. 2014 Jan 9;32(1):40-51.)



In 2016, pharmaceuticals continued to be the largest product group contributing to R&D in the UK, with £4.2 billion expenditure². This figure includes many of the costs associated with discovering and developing new medicines and enhancing existing medicines. This includes:

- ◆ Pharmaceutical company-employed scientists and other scientific and administrative staff
- ◆ Buildings and physical equipment
- ◆ The costs of in-company scientific and medical exploration
- ◆ Engagement with academic and other institutions for early phase exploration on how diseases work

Disclosure UK – the disclosure database, includes information about additional payments made by pharmaceutical companies to UK doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals and healthcare organisations in carrying out clinical trials and other R&D-related activities essential to delivering safe and effective medicines to patients.

The majority of payments disclosed on Disclosure UK in relation to R&D are for activities where pharmaceutical companies have collaborated with the UK's leading health experts and institutions in the development of new medicines.

[The ABPI Code of Practice](#) outlines the payments for which R&D activities companies are required to publish on Disclosure UK.

² ABPI / Clarivate, R&D Sourcebook, (2017)

