

# CBMNet Early Career Researchers Event

Sheffield

16<sup>th</sup> Sep 2016

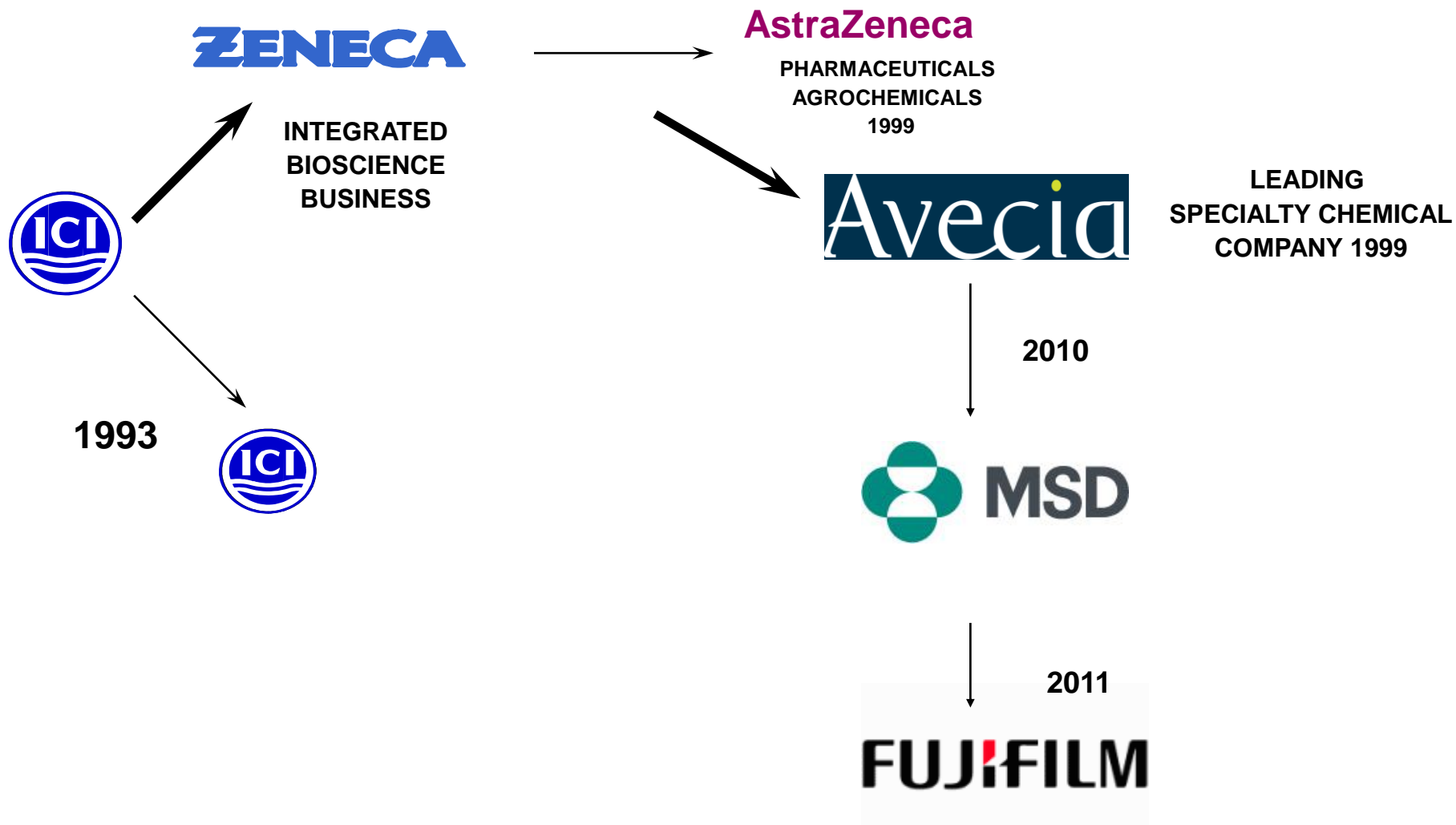
Dr Ian Hodgson

Head of Molecular Biology

# Career to date

- ▶ BSc Biochemistry. University of Birmingham
- ▶ PhD Molecular Biology of Lung Disease. University of Wales
- ▶ Post doctoral associate. University of London Medical School
- ▶ Joined ICI Diagnostics 1989
- ▶ Moved to Billingham in 1992. ICI Biological Products
- ▶ Currently Head of Molecular Biology

# FFDB history



- ▶ More Development in industry
  - ✓ Satisfaction of seeing concrete output, product etc
  - ✓ Projects can be stopped for obvious technical problems
  - ✗ Less “Blue Sky”
    - ✗ Interesting results often not followed up
  - ✗ Reduced publication output

# Intellectual Property (IP)

- ▶ Not just patents
  - Know-how, licences etc
- ▶ Patents don't prevent Research
  - But can limit commercial use
- ▶ Many commercial products restrict commercial use

- ▶ Need to communicate with non scientists
- ▶ Need to manage expectations
- ▶ Need to appreciate commercial implications for data etc
- ▶ Time is money, so need to understand how long any activity takes

# What is a PhD worth?

- ▶ It depends!
  - Is it relevant?
    - Does it justify increased salary over a graduate?
  
- ▶ Stepping stone to other careers
  - Business development
  - Project management
  - Commercial
  
- ▶ But more likely to be employed as scientist initially

# Going back to academia

- ▶ Gets more difficult with time
  - Lack of publication record
  - Lack of expertise in specific research areas