

Biotech financing update



December 2021–February 2022



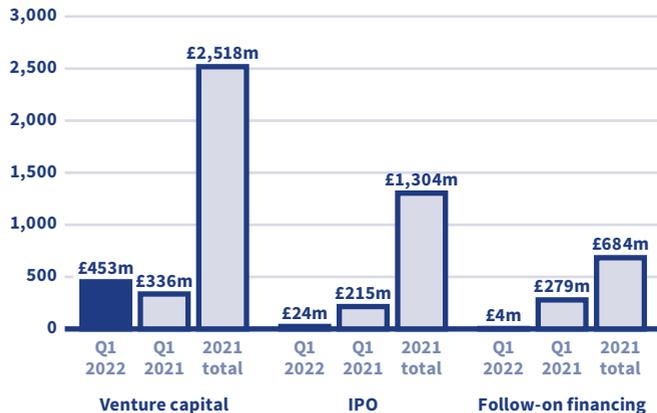
Overall figures

UK biotech companies continued to enjoy strong support from venture capital investors in the first quarter of 2022. £453m was raised, marking a record first quarter for private biotechs in the UK.

Overall, the UK biotech sector raised £481m between December 2021 and the end of February 2022. This is lower than in previous years as a result of low IPO and public follow-on activity. The suppressed public markets that overshadowed the second half of 2021 have persisted into 2022, resulting in just £28m invested in listed companies.

UK biotech financing

Total raised (£m)



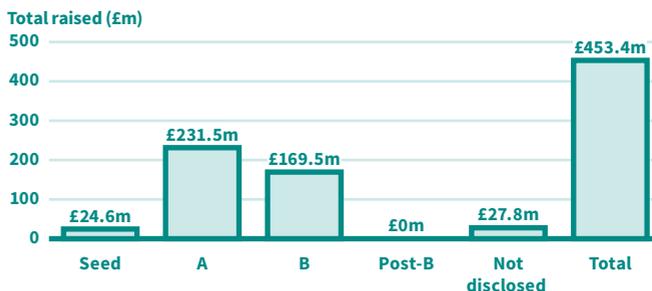
* The dataset in this report covers the period from 1 December 2021 to 28 February 2022. It provides fundraising data based on the headquarters location of the company. Where fundraises weren't in pound sterling, the relevant exchange rate of the time was used. The data is provided by Clarivate and BioWorld, with additional data sourced from the London Stock Exchange and Pitchbook.

UK venture capital

UK biotechs secured a total of £453m in private capital in the three months to the end of February as global VC firms continued to deploy the record levels of capital they have raised in the past couple of years.

Early-stage companies attracted strong seed funding and some large Series A deals. Eight companies raised over £20m, with the cell and gene therapy manufacturer Ori Biotech topping the leader board at £74.5m.

UK biotech VC deals by series



Top five UK biotech VC deals

Company name	Deal date	Round	Value (£m)
Ori Biotech	18/01/2022	B	74.5
bit.bio	30/12/2021	B	63.3
AviadoBio	02/12/2021	A	59.6
EyeBiotech	22/02/2022	A	48.4
Engitix Therapeutics	19/01/2022	A	42.4

International venture capital

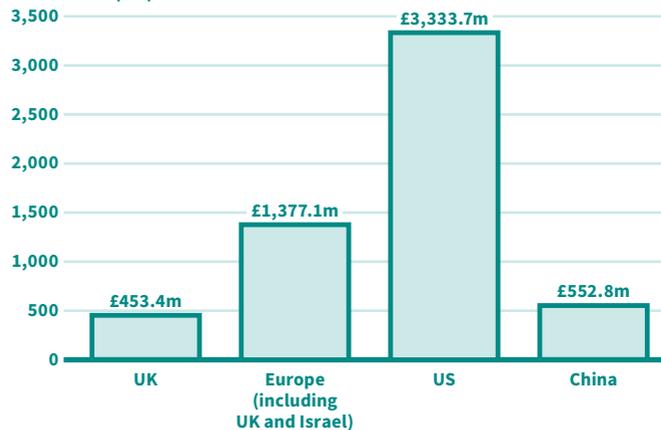
Globally, the biotech sector raised just over £5.5bn from venture and private sources, down from £7.2bn in the same period last year.

Contrary to this global picture, the UK and Europe overall saw increased investment compared to Q1 2021. The UK accounted for 33% of total European biotech VC financing.

US-based biotechs raised £3.3bn, down from £5bn in the same period last year and investment in Chinese biotechs halved from £1.1bn in Q1 2021 to just £553m in 2022.

International venture capital financings

Total raised (£m)



UK IPOs

Following a record year in 2021 for biotech listings, the public markets have cooled significantly. Despite this, two UK companies launched in what is usually a very quiet quarter for IPOs.

Glasgow-based TC Biopharm, a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on developing novel immunotherapy products, listed on NASDAQ raising £13m.

In the UK, life sciences tools company Aptamer Group launched on AIM, securing nearly £11m.

IPOs by market

Company name	Date	Market	Value (£m)
TC Biopharm Holdings	15/02/2022	NASDAQ	13.0
Aptamer Group	22/12/2021	AIM	10.8
Total			23.8

Other public financings and activity

Mirroring the IPO market, the three months leading to the end of February were very quiet for follow-on financings, with only £3.6m raised by the AIM-quoted drug discovery company ImmuoPharma.

Follow-on financings by market

	Q1 2022 (£m)	Q1 2021 (£m)	2021 (£m)
AIM	3.6	78	299
LSE	0	0	50
NASDAQ	0	177	335
Euronext	0	23	24
Total	3.6	279	684