

Irish Biotech Spinout Seeks Co-Development or Licensing Partners in Japan for Its DerMap™ Dissolving Microneedle Technology

Summary

Profile type	Company's country	POD reference
Business request	Ireland	BRIE20250729019
Profile status	Type of partnership	Targeted countries
PUBLISHED	Commercial agreement	• Japan
Contact Person	Term of validity	Last update
Noriko MITA	29 Jul 2025 29 Jul 2026	29 Jul 2025

General Information

Short summary

The Irish company is an award-winning biotech spinout and microneedle platform company leveraging its proprietary, multi award-winning DerMap™ dissolving microneedle technology to develop safer, more effective treatments across multiple therapeutic areas.

Full description

ArrayPatch Ltd (<https://array-patch.com>) is an award-winning biotech spinout and microneedle platform company leveraging its proprietary, multi award-winning DerMap™ dissolving microneedle technology to develop safer, more effective treatments across multiple therapeutic areas. The company is initially targeting the \$6 billion nail fungal infection market, with a focus on high-risk diabetic patients, and is pursuing a fast-track 505(b)(2) regulatory route to achieve first product approval within 3–4 years. Backed by €1.34 million in non-dilutive funding.

With clinical trials set to begin in Q1 2026, ArrayPatch's robust product pipeline is also expanding into high-value indications including skin cancer, skin aging, migraines, and small peptide therapies for diabetics. Led by an experienced team with a strong international track record in biotech commercialization, ArrayPatch offers multiple product and exit opportunities through its scalable microneedle platform.

ArrayPatch is currently in active commercial discussions with strategic partners for co-development and distribution opportunities and is currently seeking co-development or licensing partners in the Japanese market.

Advantages and innovations

- We believe that the ITZ-DerMap™ product offers a highly differentiated solution versus existing treatments for nail fungal infection, onychomycosis. Current standard of care treatments includes oral medications, topical creams and laser therapy, however unmet medical need remains for the patient. Leading oral therapies terbinafine (Lamisil®, Novartis) and itraconazole (Sporanox®, Janssen) for severe onychomycosis have an efficacy rate of 38% and 23% at three months respectively (Becker, 1998) and are associated with serious side effects due to their untargeted nature. While topical creams address some of the side effects of oral medicines, they have a much lower efficacy rate of less than 20% (Frazier et al, 2021), as they struggle to penetrate the nail barrier to reach the infection site in the nail matrix/bed.
- Our first product, ITZ-DerMap™, however is designed to target the nail matrix/bed and can therefore offer more effective, durable and safer treatment solution for patients. Preclinical data showed that compared with standard of care (Sporanox® and Itrigel®), ITZ-DerMap™ improves outcomes and is less toxic (which supports superior patient compliance).

Competitive Advantages of the Japanese Partner – Why They're a Strong Fit for ArrayPatch:

- Established market access: The partner has a strong presence and trusted relationships within Japan's regulated healthcare and pharmaceutical sectors.
- Regulatory expertise: Deep understanding of PMDA processes can help streamline the approval pathway in Japan and align with regional regulatory expectations.
- Commercial strength in dermatology or diabetes: If the partner already operates in fungal infections, diabetes care, or skin-related therapeutics, they bring relevant experience and product portfolio synergies, enhancing co-positioning and market uptake.
- Manufacturing or scaling capability (if relevant): The partner may offer local GMP-certified manufacturing or distribution infrastructure, reducing cost.

Technical specification or expertise sought

Type of partnership sought:

- Co-development agreement (e.g., joint development of specific indication, such as nail fungal infections or diabetic peptides)
- Licensing agreement, granting rights for manufacturing, marketing, or distribution in Japan (exclusive or non-exclusive depending on structure)
- Potential for a strategic investment or joint venture if aligned with long-term interests and shared risk/reward

Stage of development

Under development

Sustainable Development goals

- **Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**
- **Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being**
- **Goal 13: Climate Action**
- **Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production**

IPR Status

IPR Notes

Partner Sought

Expected role of the partner

The Japanese partner is expected to play a critical role in:

Co-development of one or more ArrayPatch microneedle-based products tailored to the -Japanese market, with possible input on local formulation, regulatory strategy, or product adaptation.

-Regulatory support, particularly navigating Japan's PMDA process and contributing to a smooth path to approval for the 505(b)(2)-aligned products.

-Distribution and commercialization, leveraging local market knowledge and sales infrastructure to bring the product to market efficiently.

Type and Size of Ideal Partner

-Mid-sized to large pharmaceutical, biotech, or dermatology-focused company with an established presence in the Japanese prescription drug market

-Experience transdermal delivery, diabetes care, dermatology, Oncology, or infectious diseases

-Capabilities in regulatory affairs, sales and marketing, and ideally local manufacturing or packaging

-Annual revenue of €100M+ is desirable, but smaller, focused players with deep domain expertise will also be considered if highly aligned.

Type of partnership

Commercial agreement

Type and size of the partner

• **SME 50 - 249**

Dissemination

Technology keywords

Market keywords

• **05003005 - Drug delivery and other equipment**

• **05003001 - Therapeutic services**

• **05004004 - Medical instruments**

• **05005022 - Other clinical medicine**



Targeted countries

- **Japan**

Sector groups involved

