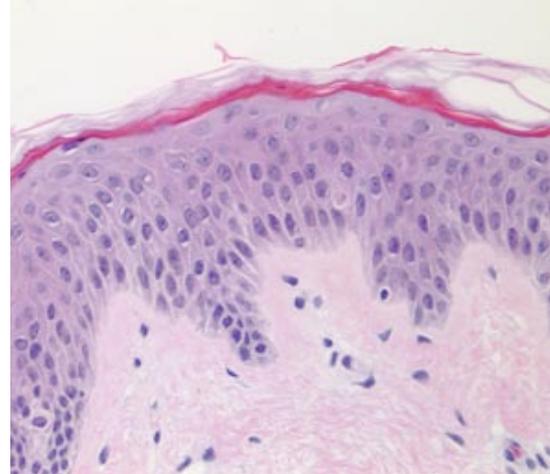


GETTING UNDER THE SKIN OF BIO-BASED PRODUCTS

Development of an in vitro living skin equivalent for testing anti-inflammatory substances



THE NEED

Increasing consumer demand for natural products, combined with the need to develop environmentally sustainable alternatives to petroleum-based products, has made the production of high value compounds from biomass particularly attractive. The natural personal care market is currently experiencing strong growth across the globe and is expected to reach \$46bn by 2018.*

The safety of personal care products is regulated under cosmetic and/or drug regulations in the EU and US, resulting in a need for robust in vitro human living skin equivalent models for testing inflammatory responses.

THE PARTNERSHIP

Epistem, a UK company with expertise in delivering dermatological testing services and ScandiDerma, a Norwegian company with expertise in developing new dermatological ingredients from biomass, were introduced by Innovate UK.

They submitted a successful project proposal to an Innovate UK and Innovation Norway funded competition for industrial biotechnology in 2012.

THE PROJECT

This project aims to develop a new in vitro human living skin equivalent model for testing inflammatory responses. This is a novel method that will add to the field of dermatological testing as a whole and help create more activity in extracting high value compounds from biomass.

*Source:

<http://www.skininc.com/spabusiness/global/Kline-Reports-Global-Natural-Personal-Care-Market-Displays-Healthy-Growth-235408841.html>

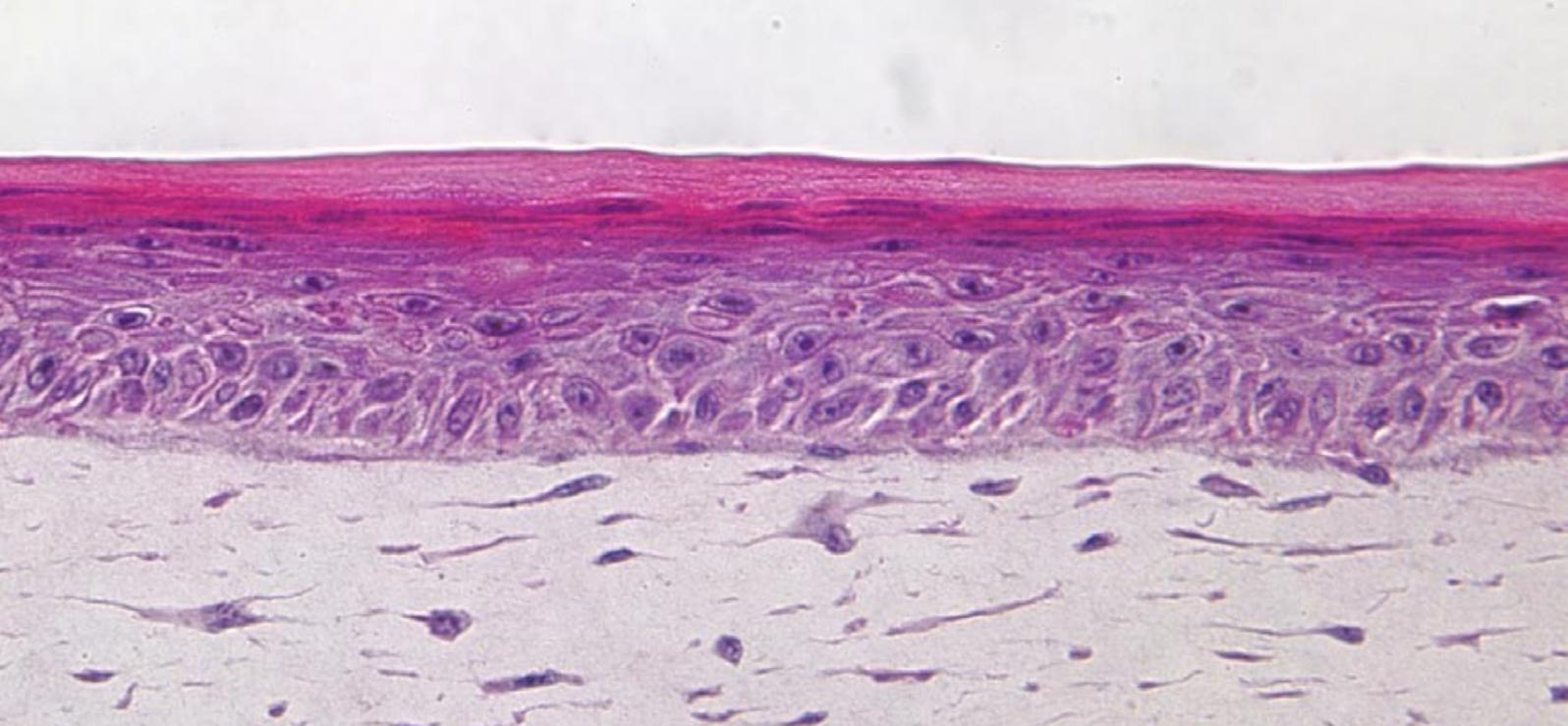


“ The collaboration with ScandiDerma presents an exciting opportunity to leverage Epistem’s strong scientific background in skin biology and inflammation to address the shortage of robust human dermatology models for testing inflammatory responses. ”

Matthew Walls
CEO, Epistem

epistem

UK-NORWAY: DRIVING THE BIO-BASED ECONOMY



EXPECTED PROJECT OUTCOMES

As a result of this collaboration:

- Creation of additional services to the healthcare industry through testing of their products for inflammatory/anti-inflammatory responses
- Target Markets: Domestic European and outside Europe
- Estimated peak market potential: £1mn
- Expected product launch: 2015
- Two patent applications expected by Scandiderma

“ For ScandiDerma this is an important milestone in building up our competence around test- systems and how to rapidly determine good lead candidates from our bioprospecting activities ”

Geir Håvard Kvalheim
CEO, ScandiDerma



UK-NORWAY COLLABORATIONS

The business funding agencies in the UK & Norway signed the Memorandum of Understanding in 2011 to enhance collaboration between the two nations in the area of industrial biotechnology & biorefining. The KTN & IBNN are the delivery team, ensuring opportunities for networking are in place and strategic. This project resulted from such activities.

If you are interested in finding a UK or Norwegian partner, or want to know more about the MoU or opportunities to network, visit the Norway-UK Group on [_connect](#) or email:

 biosciences@ktn-uk.org
 ernst@indbiotech.no

UK-NORWAY: DRIVING THE BIO-BASED ECONOMY