ALMAC
Partnering to Advance Human Health

Almac Voice

Biologics...changing treatment, saving lives

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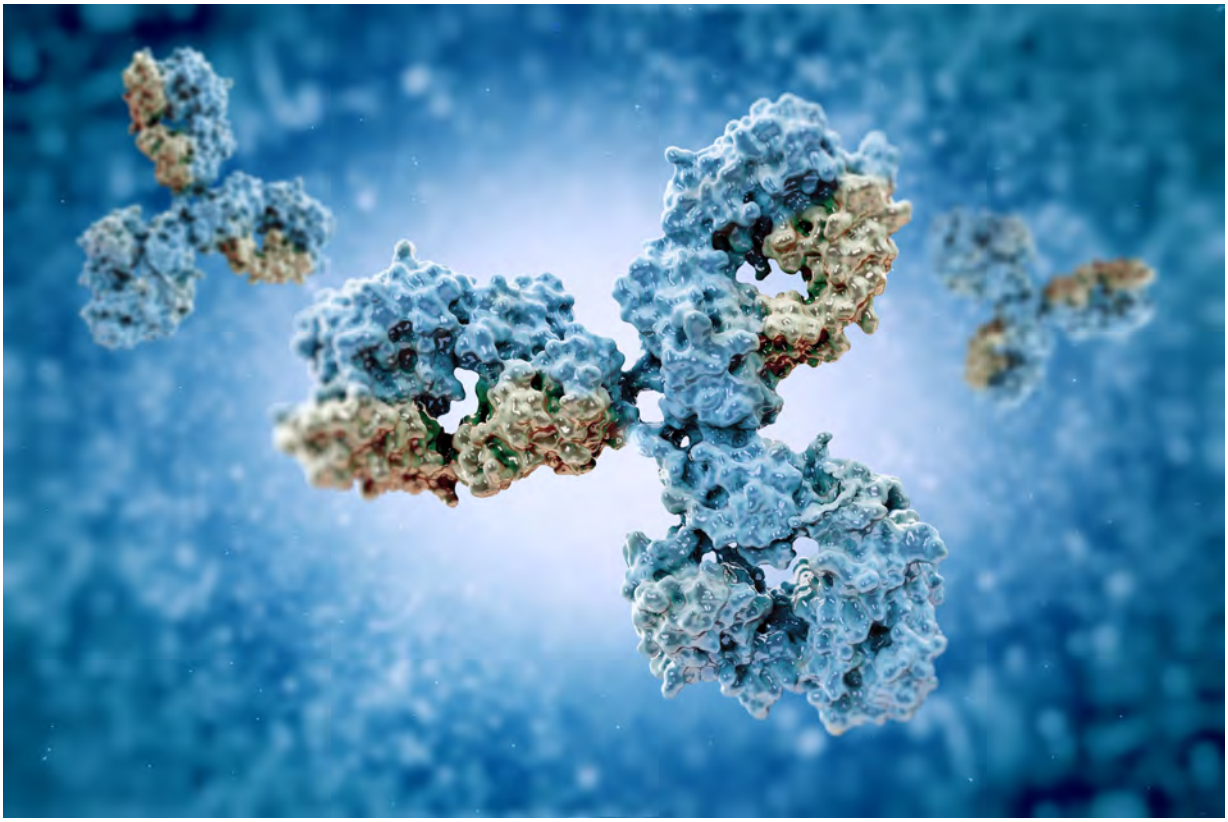

Biologics have gained huge traction in the last decade and are poised for stronger growth in the coming years with potential to significantly impact patient lives.

The past decade has witnessed a phenomenal growth and diversification of biologics in the healthcare industry.

In 2019, 40% of drugs in the R&D pipeline are biologics when compared to 25% in 2009 (Figure 1). Eight out of top 10 drugs by sales in 2019 were biologics of which seven are monoclonal antibodies (Figure 2). With the report highlighting that the global biologics market is projected to grow at a compound annual rate of 9.6% between 2019 and 2026 , the growing demand for cancer and orphan drugs, personalised medicine, and the need to reduce healthcare costs through affordable biosimilars are driving R&D investments in biological medicines.

Interventions with biological therapies have substantially diversified in the last few years with several regulatory approvals for cell and gene based therapeutic products while hundreds are in development and clinical phases across multiple indications. Both therapies aim at modifying the genetic material for treatment of a disease and show the opportunities within this sector for the future.

The promising growth and diversification of biologics expands the reach of medicines available to patients in unprecedented ways. There is now the opportunity to treat diseases for which existing interventions were inadequate or improve patient outcomes due to the increased access to these therapies. For example, a cell based therapy can provide significant health benefits, potentially curative, from a single administration. In addition, biosimilars can cost up to 30 percent less than reference biologics and provides affordable treatment options.

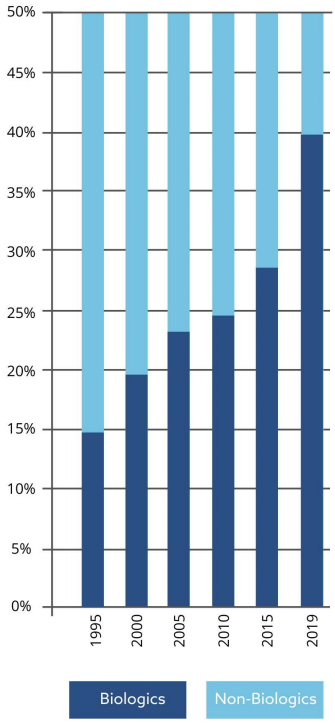

Figure 1
Source: Pharma R&D Annual Review

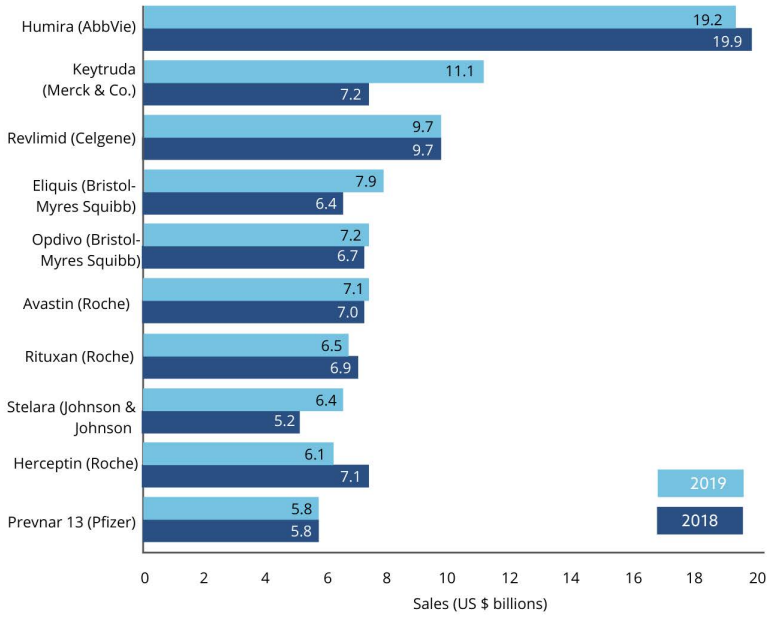

Figure 2
Source: Nature Reviews Drug Discovery

Biologics, however, are complex large molecules that are sensitive to and altered by changes in their manufacturing process. Therefore, developing and manufacturing biologics require huge technical expertise as opposed to small molecules resulting in many small to medium sized biopharmaceutical companies outsourcing the needs to CROs and CDMOs. According to a recent report, the global outsourcing market for biopharmaceuticals is expected to reach USD 37.8 billion by 2025, at a CAGR of 7.7%. In response to this rising demand, several CROs and CDMOs are continuing to invest in biopharmaceutical services and manufacturing facilities respectively.

Almac's Analytical Solutions for Biologics

At Almac, we understand that developing a biological drug is a costly and complex process where purity, safety, and efficacy must be continually monitored and in order to meet strict regulatory requirements. We provide comprehensive and flexible analytical solutions to support clients throughout the biologic development cycle, from discovery through preclinical and clinic to the market. Our GLP/GCP/cGMP compliant laboratories ensure the highest quality and purity of biopharmaceutical products critical for success.

We offer support for biological testing by providing services from early drug development right through the entire product life-cycle. With over 15 years' experience servicing clients' needs, we provide analytical solutions from preclinical activities to bioanalysis of clinical specimens, in addition to quality control testing of small and large molecules, raw materials and finished products.

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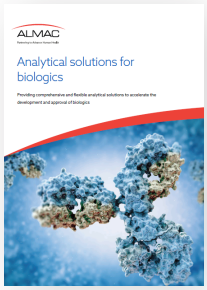

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