**[366] MBCURE OVERVIEW**

 **TARGETED MICROBIOME MODULATION**

**Naomi Zak1, 1 Mbcure**

MBcure is a biopharmaceutical company aiming to develop bacteriophage-based therapies for the treatment and prevention of diseases stemming from dysbiosis of the microbiome. The company is financed by a syndicate of Johnson & Johnson Innovation – JJDC, Takeda Pharmaceutical Company through its venture group Takeda Ventures Inc., OrbiMed Israel Partners and the Israel Office of the Chief Scientist. MBcure operates in the FutuRx biotech incubator in Ness Ziona.

The company's mission is to establish a platform for the rapid identification, validation, preclinical and clinical development of bacteria-specific phage cocktails for directed microbiome modulation. The phage drug will carry out targeted suppression of disease-associated gut bacteria demonstrated to cause or exacerbate disease.

MBcure benefits from the expertise of its scientific founders, Prof. Rotem Sorek and Dr. Eran Elinav of the nearby Weizmann Institute, and from the advanced infrastructural capabilities in their laboratories, which include high-throughput phage discovery, sequencing and analysis capabilities as well as a ‘germ-free’ mouse facility for generation of controlled microbiome-dependent disease models.