

ABSTRACT

Recent years, there were lots of attentions on the development of biotech industry and the operation of incubation center. Many resources have been invested in the biotech industry in Taiwan. However, superior or successful outcomes were rare. Moreover, most Taiwan biotech-related companies are small-medium enterprises which are the main coaching targets of incubation center. Therefore, the successful operation of incubation center would relate to and affect the development of biotech industry in Taiwan.

Through reference review, six key success factors about general incubation center operation were identified as “the operator of incubation center”, “the establish of various relationship networks”, “operation by enterprise management”, “the selection of proper tenants and graduation exam for tenants”, “to keep close relationship with universities”, and “the incubation center’s service items”. In addition, by investigation of the successful foreign bio-incubation center, four key success factors which might influence the operation of bio-incubation center were concluded as “collaboration with hospitals”, “co-operation the development of bio-science parks and bio-incubation center”, “having partners with varieties of technologies”, and “the internationalization of incubation center”. Based on the ten factors above, this study would investigate the operation and development of bio-incubation center in Taiwan. In addition, the key success factors of general incubation centers would be compared with those of bio-incubation centers in order to give suggestions for success operation.

According to the analysis, technology support is crucial and essential to the Taiwan bio-incubation center. In general, having better interaction with parent organization would result in better performance. Among the six key

success factors of general incubation center, four of them influence the operation more deeply, which were “the establish of various relationship networks”, “operation by enterprise management”, “the selection of proper tenants and graduation exam for tenants”, “to keep close relationship with universities”, and “the incubation center’s service items”. For the four key success factors of bio-incubation center, “collaboration with hospitals” is not necessary; there were no obvious results or plan about the “co-operation the development of bio-science parks and bio-incubation center” and “the internationalization of incubation center”; “having partners with varieties of technologies” is focus on the informal collaboration. A formal technology platform based on alliance of incubation centers still faces many difficulties and most bio-incubation centers in Taiwan still considerate the possibility of this kind of collaborative platform.

Finally, this study proposes a relation between bio-incubation center development stages and the key success factors. As a result, the developments of Taiwan bio-incubation centers are just in the beginning or middle stage. The four key success factors derived from foreign successful and well-developed bio-incubation centers might be a long-term goal to Taiwan bio-incubation centers.

Key words: Biotechnology, Incubation center (Incubator), Key success factors