Table 2
Innovation Policy Toolkit

Policy	Quality of evidence (1)	Conclusiveness of evidence (2)	Net benefit (3)	Time frame (4)	Effect on inequality (5)
Direct R&D grants	Medium	Medium	💡💡	Medium run	↑
R&D tax credits	High	High	💡💡💡	Short run	↑
Patent box	Medium	Medium	Negative	NA	↑
Skilled immigration	High	High	💡💡💡	Short to medium run	↓
Universities: incentives	Medium	Low	💡	Medium run	↑
Universities: STEM supply	Medium	Medium	💡💡	Long run	↓
Trade and competition	High	Medium	💡💡💡	Medium run	↑
Intellectual property reform	Medium	Low	Unknown	Medium run	Unknown
Mission-oriented policies	Low	Low	💡	Medium run	Unknown

Source: The authors.

Notes: This is our highly subjective reading of the evidence. Column 1 reflects a mixture of the number of studies and the quality of the research design. Column 2 indicates whether the existing evidence delivers any firm policy conclusions. Column 3 is our assessment of the magnitude of the benefits minus the costs (assuming these are positive). Column 4 delineates whether the main benefits (if there are any) are likely to be seen in the short run (roughly, the next three to four years) or in the longer run (roughly ten years or more); NA means not applicable. Column 5 lists the likely effect on inequality.