Mergers, Acquisitions, Deals and Partnerships

MEDNESS BUSINESS – November 05, 2019

T3D Therapeutics raises $15 million series B to advance Alzheimer's disease treatment

Nov 4, 2019

T3D Therapeutics has raised $15 million in series B financing to advance the phase 2 development of oral-administered lead candidate T3D-959. T3D-959 is a brain-penetrating small molecule agonist intended for improving glucose and lipid metabolism that goes awry in Alzheimer's disease. With support from National Institute of Aging, part of the National Institute of Health (NIH), the PIONEER study is designed to evaluate the safety and efficacy starting early 2020.

About T3D Therapeutics

Business: biotechnology, therapeutics

Founded 2013

Headquarters: Durham, North Carolina, USA

CEO: John Didsbury

Google acquires Fitbit for $2.1 billion

Nov 1, 2019

Google has entered in a definitive agreement to acquire the 12-year-old popular wearable brand Fitbit for $2.1 billion. With over 28 million active users and over 100 million devices sold, Google will shell out $7.35 per share. The acquisition comes soon after Fitbit's alliance with pharma majors Pfizer and Bristol Meyer Squibbs to detect atrial fibrillations on its wearable devices. This is the second wearable acquisition by Google this year after Fossil's undisclosed technology for $40 million.

About Google:

Business: internet, technology

Founded 1998

Headquarters: Menlo Park, California, USA

CEO: Sundar Pichai

Jobs at Google 'Healthcare'

Amgen and BeiGene collaborate to tap Chinese oncology market

Nov 1, 2019

Amgen is set to acquire a 20.5% stake in BeiGene for $2.7 billion in cash to tap into the oncology market in China. The collaboration is set to advance 20 medicines from Amgen's oncology pipeline in China with BeiGene gaining commercial rights for seven years after their launch in China, beyond which BeiGene will retain the rights of up to six products in China. The transaction is expected to be completed in early 2020.

"Through this collaboration, Amgen, a true biotech pioneer and leader in our industry, has recognized the transformative potential of BeiGene's unique clinical development capabilities to accelerate global drug development. We are thrilled to join forces with Amgen to realize the development and commercialization of this broad oncology pipeline with the aim of benefiting patients around the world," said John V. Oyler, Co-Founder, CEO, and Chairman of BeiGene. "In addition, this alliance expands the portfolio available to our market-leading China commercial team, led by Dr. Xiaobin Wu, with the potential to bring as many as eight internally discovered and in-licensed innovative treatments to cancer patients by the end of 2020."

About Amgen:

Business: pharmaceuticals

Founded 1980

Headquarters: Thousand Oaks, California, USA
CEO: Robert A. Bradway
Jobs at Amgen

About BeiGene:
Business: biotechnology, medical
Founded 2010
Headquarters: Beijing, China
CEO: John V. Oyler
Jobs at BeiGene

Pascal and Y-Biologics collaborate to develop bispecific antibodies for Leukemia
Oct 29, 2019
Pascal Biosciences Inc. and Y-Biologics have entered into a joint collaboration to share the discovery and validation of bispecific antibodies for leukemia. According to the agreement, Pascal will use its proprietary antibodies for validation using Y-Biologics bispecific-antibody platform technology ALiCE.

"We are excited by the opportunity to advance our novel antibodies with the leading bispecific antibody technology developed by Y-Biologics," said Patrick Gray, Ph.D., CEO of Pascal. "This agreement allows us both to collaborate in the advancement of ground-breaking technology for treating leukemia."

About Pascal Biosciences:
Business: biotechnology
Founded 2011
Headquarters: Seattle, USA
CEO: Patrick W. Gray

About Y-Biologics:
Business: biotechnology
Founded 2007
Headquarters: Seoul, South Korea
CEO: Young Woo Park

Ziopharm and MD Anderson Cancer Center announce R&D agreement to advance T-cell therapy
Oct 28, 2019
Ziopharm and The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center have announced a R&D agreement to develop and clinically evaluate Ziopharm's Sleeping Beauty T-cell immunotherapy program for solid tumors. According to the agreement, Ziopharm will infuse $20 million for the program until 2023 besides adding milestone based payment depending on clinical development and regulatory approval. Additionally, Ziopharm will lease lab and office space with the institution's campus to facilitate the R&D activities.

"We are delighted to deepen our relationship with MD Anderson, which provides treatment to a large and diverse population of cancer patients with solid tumors," said Laurence Cooper, M.D., Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer of Ziopharm. "This new agreement is a launch point to expand our TCR library and execute two new clinical trials; a trial for utilizing TCRs from the library targeting hotspot mutations in KRAS, TP53 and EGFR, and a second trial for personalized TCRs targeting patient-specific neoantigens."

About Ziopharm:
Business: biotechnology

Founded 2005
Headquarters: New York, USA
CEO: Laurence J. N. Cooper
Jobs at Ziopharm

About MD Anderson Cancer Center:
Business: research
Founded 1941
Headquarters: Houston, Texas, USA
Jobs at MD Anderson Cancer Center