



Asterand's Subsidiary BioSeek Signs Agreement with Cellzome

Two Year Deal Provides Cellzome with Access to BioSeek's BioMAP® Platform

Asterand plc (LSE: ATD), a leading provider of human tissue and human tissue-based research services to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies engaged in drug discovery research, today announced that its subsidiary BioSeek, LLC, a pioneer in the application of predictive human biology to drug discovery, has signed a two-year agreement with Cellzome.

Under the agreement, BioSeek will apply its unique BioMAP® predictive human disease models to support and advance Cellzome's discovery projects in the treatment of inflammatory diseases.

Oliver Rausch, Vice President Biology at Cellzome , noted:

"We are delighted to partner with BioSeek for access to their proprietary human biology models. The BioMAP® platform will allow us to receive early insight into the human pharmacological and toxicological properties of our small molecules, enabling us to develop safer and more effective treatments for inflammation."

Asterand's CEO, Martyn Coombs, commented:

"We are honoured that Cellzome has chosen BioSeek to support their drug discovery and development programmes. Our BioMAP® platform is uniquely suited for predicting possible human clinical responses of the small molecules Cellzome identifies with its proprietary screening and profiling technologies, *Kinobeads*™ and *Episphere*™. Our team looks forward to working with Cellzome scientists on the advancement of new innovative treatments for inflammatory diseases. We are also delighted with BioSeek's performance since being successfully integrated earlier this year and this is clearly demonstrated by the Cellzome agreement, the fifth collaboration agreement signed this year."

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About ASTERAND

Asterand plc is a leading supplier of high quality human tissue and tissue-based services. Our comprehensive approach to human tissue and research services offers pharmaceutical, biotech and diagnostic companies the unique opportunity to have one company meet all of their human biomaterial needs along the continuum of drug discovery and development. Our mission is to accelerate target discovery and compound validation and enable pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies to take safer and more effective drugs into the market. For more information about Asterand or BioSeek, go to www.asterand.com.

About Cellzome

Cellzome is a privately-owned drug discovery and development company, and a leader in the use of chemical proteomics technologies to identify a new generation of drug candidates for the treatment of inflammatory diseases. Its pipeline of small-molecule therapeutics is driven by Kinobeads™, a proprietary technology for screening and profiling kinases in their physiological context. We have developed a new technology, called Episphere™ to address epigenetic targets in disease-specific protein complexes. The Company's goal is to identify oral therapeutics for inflammatory diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, and inflammatory bowel disease.

Cellzome has two strategic alliances with GSK to discover and develop drugs to treat inflammatory diseases, the first in the field of kinase-targeted therapeutics and the second in the field of epigenetics.

Cellzome's holding company is domiciled in the US and it employs about 90 people at its two R&D laboratories in Cambridge, UK and Heidelberg, Germany. To learn more about Cellzome, please visit the website: www.cellzome.com.