

Xanthus Life Sciences Awarded Grant from NCI to Develop Technology for Personalized Dosing of Anticancer Drugs

Xanthus aims to improve efficacy and reduce side-effects using proprietary technology

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Sept. 29 /PRNewswire/ -- Xanthus Life Sciences today announced that it has received a grant valued at up to \$2.3 million from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to develop its proprietary personalized dosing (ParaMetabolic) technology to improve the way cancer drugs are dosed. Xanthus intends to license its ParaMetabolic technology to companies for their use in drug development and lifecycle management.

Xanthus' process for determining an individual's optimal dose involves giving the patient an initial dose of drug and then measuring the amount of drug remaining in the person together with patient-specific biomarkers of drug exposure. This data is then analyzed with proprietary software that determines a score for each patient. The score correlates to the dose of drug that best meets their individual characteristics while minimizing the risk of side-effects. Xanthus' technology takes into account not only the genetic makeup of the individual, but also the non-genetic factors that govern responses to therapy, such as, the effects of other drugs taken concurrently; diet; metabolic rate; major organ functions; and blood flow.

"By moving beyond the traditional 'one-size-fits-all' approach to therapy, we hope this technology will enable physicians to optimize the therapeutic benefit of certain anticancer drugs for each patient," said Richard T. Dean, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer of Xanthus Life Sciences. "We believe our approach to optimizing treatment regimens through individualized dosing is a practical evolution towards the way patients may be treated with certain drugs in the future."

Alfred Ajami, Ph.D., Chief Scientific Officer of Xanthus said, "Personalized dosing or ParaMetabolics works by integrating all of the sources of variability in an individual to seek to optimize the dose of a drug. In this way, each person can receive a dose of drug tailored to their requirements that is neither too low nor too high, thus reducing the chances that the drug will be ineffective or cause unnecessary side-effects."

About Xanthus

Xanthus is an oncology drug development company. Xanthus' small molecule candidates are Xanafide(TM), Symadex(TM) and Clomet(TM) which are advancing in clinical and preclinical development for multiple cancer indications. Each of these product candidates was in-licensed based on significant clinical and/or preclinical data supporting safety and activity. Separately, Xanthus also has proprietary technology to individualize patient dosing, which it believes may help improve the performance of certain drugs in development, and facilitate the life cycle management of certain marketed products, without limiting patient populations or markets.

Xanthus is headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts with an additional facility in Montreal, Quebec. More information is available at <http://www.xanthus.com>.

This press release contains forward-looking statements concerning Xanthus that involve a number of risks and uncertainties. For this purpose, any statements contained herein that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. Without limiting the foregoing, the words, "believes," "anticipates," "plans," "expects," "estimates," "intends," "should," "could," "will," "may," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. There are a number of important factors that could cause Xanthus' actual results to differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements, including risks as to whether results obtained in early clinical studies or in preclinical studies such as the studies referred to above will be indicative of results obtained in future clinical trials or warrant additional trials; whether products based on Xanthus' technology will advance through the clinical trial process and receive approval from the United States Food and Drug Administration or equivalent foreign regulatory agencies; whether the company will have the cash resources to develop and commercialize its products; and whether the patent and patent applications owned or licensed by Xanthus will protect the Company's technology and prevent others from infringing it. Xanthus disclaims any intention or obligation to update any forward-looking statements.

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