

RAUCON *BD Executive News*

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Hot Company News

* Co-development: **AbCellera** and **Eli Lilly and Company** have entered into an agreement to co-develop antibody products for the treatment and prevention of COVID-19, the disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 novel coronavirus. The collaboration will leverage AbCellera's rapid pandemic response platform and Lilly's global capabilities for rapid development, manufacturing and distribution of therapeutic antibodies. 12 Mar 2020 (www.abcellera.com)

* Acquisition: **AcelRx Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**, a specialty pharmaceutical company focused on the development and commercialization of innovative therapies for use in healthcare institutions, executed definitive merger agreement to acquire **Tetraphase Pharmaceuticals, Inc.** for approximately \$14.4 million. 16 Mar 2020 (www.accelrx.com)

* Acquisition: **Advanz Pharma Corp.**, a frequent attendee of euroPLX Conferences, through its wholly-owned subsidiary has entered into an arrangement agreement to acquire all of the issued and outstanding shares of specialty pharmaceutical company **Correvo Pharma Corp.** for a total purchase price of approximately \$76 million¹, which includes the repayment of certain Correvo indebtedness. 16 Mar 2020 (advanzpharma.com)

* Acquisition: **AgraFlora Organics International Inc.** has closed the acquisition of **Sanna Health Corp.** originally announced on December 5 2019. Sanna is a Canadian cannabis company based in the Greater Toronto Area which holds a standard cultivation standard processing and medical sales licences awarded under the Cannabis Act. 13 Mar 2020 (agraflora.com)

* Name change: **Spherix Incorporated** has completed its

name change to **Alkido Pharma Inc.** reflecting company's increased focus on the use of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in the drug development space. 13 Mar 2020 (spherix.com)

* Acquisition: **AXIM Biotechnologies, Inc.** an international healthcare solutions company targeting oncological and cannabinoid research, has completed the acquisition of the oncology research and development company **Sapphire Biotech, Inc.** Financial terms were not disclosed. 18 Mar 2020 (aximbiotech.com)

* Acquisition: The CDMO **Bora Pharmaceuticals Co., Ltd** and **GSK** announced today they have entered into an agreement under which Bora Pharmaceuticals will acquire GSK's Mississauga, Ontario (Canada) facility.

The GSK facility produces approximately 50 different products for over 100 markets worldwide and employs approximately 400 skilled manufacturing staff who will be invited to join Bora Pharmaceuticals as part of the transaction. Bora Pharmaceuticals will continue to manufacture, under contract, the existing GSK product line for a minimum of five years. 9 Mar 2020 (www.bora-corp.com)

* Merger: **Immatix Biotechnologies GmbH** has entered into a definitive business combination agreement with **Arya Sciences Acquisition Corp.**, a special purpose acquisition company, sponsored by Perceptive Advisors, an investment company.

Arya is a blank check company newly incorporated as a Cayman Islands exempted company for the purpose of effecting a merger, share exchange, asset acquisition, share purchase, reorganization or similar business combination with one or more businesses or entities. 17 Mar 2020 (www.immatix.com)

* Co-Development: **Pfizer Inc.** and Mainz, Germany, based **BioNTech SE** have agreed to a letter of intent regarding the co-development and distribution (excluding China) of a potential mRNA-based coronavirus vaccine aimed at preventing COVID-19 infection. The companies have executed a Material Transfer and Collaboration Agreement to enable the parties to immediately start working together. 17 Mar 2020 (www.pfizer.com)

* Licensing: **Ribomic Inc.**, a clinical stage pharmaceutical company specialising in aptamer therapeutics has signed the license agreement with **Aju Pharm Co. Ltd.**, a Korean pharmaceutical company and euroPLX attendee, for RBM-007 for the indication of the exudative age-related macular degeneration in the territory of Korea and Southeast Asia. 17 Mar 2020 (www.ribomic.com)

* Acquisition: **Zuellig Pharma** aims to strengthen its presence across Asia, saying it has acquired a controlling stake in **Alliance Pharma (Cambodge)**, a leading healthcare distributor of Cambodia. Financial terms of the deal were not disclosed. 5 Mar 2020 (www.zuelligpharma.com)

BD People on the Move

* Abbott Laboratories: **Evandro Oliveira**, who has been Senior Manager Business Development and Licensing, left the company (Pers Comm 5 Mar 2020)

* Bristol-Myers Squibb Company: **Elizabeth Mily**, joining from Barclays, where she was the Managing Director and Chair of the Global Lifesciences group in the global healthcare unit, has been appointed as Executive Vice President, Strategy & Business Development, effective March 30, 2020. (Press Release 18 Mar 2020)

* Recursion Pharmaceuticals: **Shafique Virani**, M.D., who most

recently served as Chief Executive Officer of Navire Pharma and CoA Therapeutics, has been appointed as Chief Corporate Development Officer. (Press Release 17 Mar 2020)