

RAUCON *BD Executive News*

Vol. 16 # 12 | 25 June 2020

Hot Company News

* Distribution: **Bavarian Nordic A/S** and **Valneva SE** announced a partnership for the marketing and distribution. Valneva will assume responsibility for the marketing and distribution of Bavarian Nordic's vaccines for rabies and tick-borne encephalitis in selected European countries and Canada. 18 Jun 2020 (www.bavarian-nordic.com)

* Acquisition: **Celltrion, Inc.** has signed an agreement to acquire product assets for the Asia Pacific region from **Takeda Pharmaceuticals International AG**. This signing allows Celltrion to acquire Takeda's Primary Care businesses in the Asia Pacific region including a total of 18 prescription and over-the-counter brands currently available in 9 markets in the region, namely, South Korea, Thailand, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau, the Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia and Australia. Celltrion agreed to acquire these rights for USD 278.3 million. 11 Jun 2020 (www.celltrion.com)

* Acquisition: **Century Therapeutics** acquired **Empirica Therapeutics** to leverage its iPSC-derived allogeneic cell therapies against glioblastoma. 23 Jun 2020 (www.centurytx.com)

* Distribution: **Cipla Limited** and **Roche Products (India) Pvt. Ltd.** have entered into an agreement to provide better access to innovative medicines for patients in India. Under this agreement, Cipla will be responsible for marketing and distribution of Roche Pharma's key trademark oncology drugs viz., Trastuzumab (Herclon), Bevacizumab (Avastin) and Rituximab (Ristova). 18 Jun 2020 (www.cipla.com)

* Acquisition: **Merck & Co., Inc.** (MSD) completed the acquisition of **Themis**, a privately-held company focused on vaccines and immune-modulation therapies for

infectious diseases and cancer. An initial focus of this agreement is acceleration of the development of a measles vector-based SARS-CoV-2 vaccine candidate. This candidate is currently in pre-clinical development, and clinical studies are planned to start later in 2020. 19 Jun 2020 (www.merck.com)

* Acquisition: **Naari Pharma Private Limited**, through its wholly owned subsidiary **Naari Pte**, has entered into a definitive asset purchase agreement to acquire 10 Abbreviated New Drug Applications (ANDAs) for the U.S. market from **Intas Pharmaceuticals Ltd**. It includes generic products in female hormones. 10 Jun 2020 (www.naari.co)

* Acquisition: **Novo Nordisk A/S** has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire **Corvidia Therapeutics Inc.**, a privately held, clinical stage company focused on the research and development of transformative therapies for cardio-renal diseases. Novo Nordisk will acquire all outstanding shares of Corvidia Therapeutics for an upfront payment of 725 million US dollars in cash. Total payments to Corvidia Therapeutics shareholders could ultimately amount to 2.1 billion US dollars in cash upon the achievement of certain regulatory and sales milestones by Novo Nordisk. 11 Jun 2020 (www.novonordisk.com)

* Licensing: **NTC S.r.L.** has granted exclusive license and distribution rights to one of its research and development products, a fixed combination in eye drops, in Israel to **Taro Pharmaceutical Industries**. 17 Jun 2020 (www.ntcpharma2.com)

* Acquisition: **Piramal Enterprises Limited's** Pharma Solutions CDMO business has entered into an agreement with **G&W Laboratories Inc.** to acquire its solid oral dosage drug product manufacturing facility located in Sellersville, Pennsylvania. This acquisition

broadens the offering of Piramal Pharma Solutions by adding solid oral dosage form capabilities (tablets and capsules) in North America. 20 Jun 2020 (www.piramal.com)

* Name Change: **Amabiotics** changed its corporate name to **Stellate Therapeutics Inc.** This new name reflects the company's strategic focus of using the human gut-brain axis to change the trajectory of brain disorders, including Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease. 15 Jun 2020 (www.stellate-tx.com)

* Licensing: **Sun Pharma** entered into an exclusive licensing and distribution agreement for **ILUMYA™**, a USFDA approved innovative IL-23p19 monoclonal antibody used for the treatment of adults with moderate to severe plaque psoriasis, for the Middle East & North Africa (MENA) region. 15 Jun 2020 (www.sunpharma.com)

* Divestment: **Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited** has entered into an agreement to divest a portfolio of select non-core over-the-counter (OTC) and prescription pharmaceutical products sold exclusively in Asia Pacific to **Celltrion Inc.**, an Incheon, South Korea-based biopharmaceutical company. The portfolio to be divested to Celltrion includes a variety of OTC products and pharmaceutical products in the Cardiovascular, Diabetes and General Medicine therapeutic areas sold predominantly in Australia, Hong Kong, Macau, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan and Thailand. 11 Jun 2020 (www.takeda.co.jp)

* Distribution: **Tanner Pharma Group** signed a distribution agreement with **Tasman Pharma Inc.** The agreement names Tanner as a distributor of Versacloz in areas outside of the United States where the product is not yet registered (excluding Australia, Ireland, and United Kingdom). Versacloz is indi-

cated for the treatment of severely ill patients with schizophrenia who fail to respond adequately to standard antipsychotic treatment. 22 Jun 2020 (www.tannerpharma.com)

* Co-promotion: **Titan Pharmaceuticals, Inc.** has entered into a co-promotion partnership with **Indegene Inc.** to establish multichannel digital marketing programs throughout the United States and expand the capabilities for the engagement of health care providers who are eligible to prescribe Titan's Probuphine® implant, a subdermal implant designed to deliver buprenorphine continuously for six months. 24 Jun 2020 (www.titanpharm.com)

BD People on the Move

* CANbridge Pharmaceuticals: **Carrie Ann Cook** has been appointed to the position of Senior Vice-President/Global Head of Business Development. (Press Release 16 Jun 2020)

* CURE Pharmaceutical : **Jonathan Berlent** has been appointed as Chief Business Officer, responsible for sourcing and executing business development opportunities, among other duties. (Press Release 16 Jun 2020)

* Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd.: **Mohammed Arif Khan**, who has been Associate Director In-licensing for Dr. Reddy's Laboratories in Switzerland has left the company. (Pers Comm 23 Jun 2020)

* MaaT Pharma: **Savita Bernal**, PhD, has been appointed as Chief Business Officer responsible for business development activities. (Press Release 28 May 2020)

* Vectura Group plc: **Robert Gurley**, has been appointed as Business Development Director, with territorial responsibility for the U.S. West Coast. (Press Release 3 Jun 2020)