

New Collaborative Effort in Cancer Drug Discovery

Edinburgh, Scotland, 08 April 2024

The School of Pharmacy at the University of Eastern Finland (UEF) and Cumulus Oncology have announced a new collaboration to facilitate early-stage cancer drug discovery. The objective of this project is to develop innovative approaches for targeting different cancer-related proteins, such as small GTPases, and to apply this technology in a variety of research projects.

The DrugTech Research Community where the School of Pharmacy, UEF, plays a central role, has a long-standing history in the field of molecular modelling with a particular emphasis on long-timescale Molecular Dynamics (MD) simulations. This work is made possible by the world-class supercomputing facilities available to UEF through Finland's national centre of expertise in information technology CSC – IT Center for Science.

Cumulus Oncology is Europe's first oncology biotech creation studio and is dedicated to developing new therapeutics for unmet need in cancer. Through its model of asset curation, new companies are created and pipelines built, with each company focusing on a specific area of biology with a clear line of sight to specific patient populations.

This collaboration represents a significant step forward in the field of small GTPase research and has the potential to yield important insights and advancements.

Clare Wareing, Cumulus CEO, commented, "*The Cumulus model is to create assets of high interest to pharma that tackle unmet need in cancer and the collaboration with UEF typifies this approach. We're delighted to be collaborating with Professor **Antti Poso** and team.*"

"*I am really excited to engage in this collaboration with Cumulus Oncology, which has a huge potential to result in discoveries that can ultimately benefit cancer patients,*" said Dr **Tatu Pentsar**, Scientific Leader of the project.

"*For us, collaboration with industry is a natural way to operate, as translational aspects are extremely important in drug discovery,*" added Professor Antti Poso.

About Cumulus Oncology

From securing pre-seed investment in 2020, Cumulus has continued to develop a capitally efficient business model. The company sources novel oncology assets from academic institutes, commercial drug discovery groups and biopharmaceutical companies. The Cumulus scientific and commercial team members identify novel targets for drug discovery programmes which the company funds, supports and collaborates on. Following rigorous due diligence and market assessment activities, negotiations on deal terms and in-depth feasibility on the investment case, selected assets are spun out into newly created companies. An early focus on molecularly selected patient sub-groups, is a key aspect of the business model. The company incorporates the use of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) platforms into its decision-making process to prioritise targets and assets.

Cumulus contributes both early-stage capital and oncology drug development expertise and manages each spinout company to achieve key development milestones and value inflections. The companies created by Cumulus represent valuable investment opportunities for VCs that focus on the biotech sector. These VCs are important partners for Cumulus when the spinout companies reach key inflection points. The founding team at Cumulus consists of successful life science entrepreneurs, scientists and a range of oncology drug development and pharma sector business professionals.

For more information, please visit: www.cumulusoncology.com



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