



Today, We have a lot of news, important news and positively impacting news. We see new alliances, technical and technological alliances between biotech companies aiming at improving their drugs. Through its alliance with **Diversa DVSA**, **Xoma (XOMA)** has successfully generated an antibody that binds with **sub-picomolar affinity to an undisclosed target**. The generated super antibody has shown **exceptional potency** and is believed to have the potential to be an important addition to Xoma's pipeline for the treatment of **autoimmune-inflammatory diseases**.

In the news also, some drugs showing promise in treating **brain cancer** – solid tumors in general. **Cotara®**, for example, developed by **Peregrine Pharmaceuticals (PPHM)** is a chimeric tumor-necrosis therapy (TNT) **antibody attached to radioactive Iodine-131**. The drug is designed to bind to the dead or dying tissue present in all solid tumors. Initial Experience in 51 Patients validates the use of **convection-enhanced delivery (CED)** for administering Cotara® to patients with brain cancer. CED resulted in accurate delivery of the prescribed dose of radiation and resulted in **favorable tumor coverage while minimizing additional exposure to surrounding, healthy brain tissue to radiation**.

CED provides a method of bypassing the blood-brain barrier for regional delivery of large molecular agents, such as Cotara®, directly into the brain tumor region. This is important news (For further details read Prohost Faxletter, which will be posted tomorrow on the web and e-mailed to subscribers)

Also, for brain cancer, **Northwest Biotherapeutics (NWBT)** received clearance from the FDA to begin assessment of its **dendritic cell-based product candidate, DCVax®-Brain**, in a large Phase 2 clinical trial with approximately 150 patients suffering from **Glioblastoma multiforme**

*DCVax®-Brain is a personalized vaccine that is made from a patient's own cells and mobilizes the patient's immune system to attack his or her brain cancer. The drug has shown promise in two Phase I clinical trials. It seems that the improvements in time to progression and survival time were **significant**. Newly diagnosed patients have benefited more than for patients with later stage recurrent disease. That's why Northwest Biotherapeutics' upcoming Phase 2 trial will focus on **newly diagnosed GBM patients**, administering DCVax®-Brain **early in the course of the disease for maximum impact**. In addition, the Phase 2 trial will include an ongoing regime of booster shots in addition to the initial series of injections.*

NWBT's DCVax®-Prostate is entering a Phase 3 clinical trial for treatment of non-metastatic hormone independent prostate cancer;

NEWS WE ARE WAITING FOR

HYBRIDON (HBY)

*A Research Collaboration with **Novartis** On Toll-Like Receptor 9 Drug Candidates*

Hybridon entered into research collaboration and license agreements with **Novartis** for the discovery, optimization, development and commercialization of **Toll-like receptor 9 (TLR9)** drug candidates targeting **asthma and allergy based on Hybridon's proprietary immune modulatory oligonucleotide (IMO™) technology platform**. The agreements are structured in **two phases**.

In the collaboration phase, Hybridon and Novartis will work together to evaluate novel IMOs from which Novartis may select IMO candidates for further development through human clinical "proof of concept" trials. Based on the results, Novartis may **then elect to implement the commercialization agreement, complete the development, and commercialize one or more of the IMO candidates**.



Novartis will fund substantially all research activities and make payments to Hybridon, including up-front

license fees and milestone payments, which if Novartis elects to exercise its option to develop and commercialize IMO candidates may **total up to \$136 million for the products, plus royalties.**

"There is a pressing need to develop more effective methods of treating asthma and allergies, both of which are large and growing medical problems," said Sudhir Agrawal, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Scientific Officer of Hybridon. "We believe that our IMO technology can be used to develop immune modulatory compounds to address the underlying conditions of these diseases and result in novel treatments for these serious unmet medical needs. We are optimistic that our DNA chemistry expertise coupled with Novartis' strength in research and development plus their track record of bringing new products to market can contribute substantially to the success of this program."

Toll-like receptors are recognized by the scientific community as the gateways to immune modulation.

Using its extensive experience with DNA chemistry, Hybridon has developed a portfolio of IMO compounds designed to act as **agonists of TLR9** and thereby elicit a **Th-1 type immune response**. Agonists of TLR are potentially useful for treatment of a variety of diseases, including **asthma, allergy, cancer and infectious disease**. Hybridon's lead IMO, IMOxine®, is in a Phase 2 human clinical trial for **renal cell cancer**.

This is excellent news, especially that Novartis has been looking at Hybridon's IMO products for several months now. The giant drug company has already tested Hybridon's results, analyzed them and carefully chosen to sign. Again, this might be a new beginning for the firm that is trading at less than \$1 for more than a year, despite all the scientific achievements at the hand of excellent scientists led by Sudhir Agrawal.

TOMPORROW IN PROHOST FAX/E-MAIL LETTER

READ MORE DETAILS, MORE IMPORTANT STATISTICS AND MORE NEWS ABOUT THE POWER OF THE TECHNOLOGIES IN CONQUERING HEPATITIS, CANCER AND OTHER DISEASES

PROHOST RESEARCH
P.O.BOX 640 429
Oakland Gardens, Ny 11364
Telephone : 516 678 1335
Fax 718 423 2731
E-mail prohost@aol.com

Prohost is independent publication providing information on biotech companies. Prohost does not accept compensation from companies that are featured or profiled. It is strongly recommended that any purchase or sale decisions to any of the featured companies be discussed with a financial advisor or broker prior to completing any such purchase or sale decision. All statements or expressions are the opinion of Prohost and are not meant to be a solicitation or recommendation to buy, sell, or hold securities. Investing in embryonic companies, micro-cap and growth securities is highly speculative and carries a high degree of risk. It is possible that an investor can lose all of his/her investment in this type of companies that are profiled. The information that Prohost relies on is either through the profiled company, news services, research reports, interviews, or other outside sources that Prohost believes are reliable. Prohost makes no representations, warranties or guarantees as to the accuracy or completeness of the disclosure of the profiled companies and accepts no responsibilities for inaccuracies or misleading content in any material supplied by those clients. There can be no assurance that future events relating to the profiled company will occur as anticipated. The information contained herein is provided as an information service only. Past performance of featured companies does not guarantee the future success of any currently featured or profiled company. We encourage our readers to invest carefully and read the investor information provided by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and/or the National Association of Securities Dealers ("NASD"). We also strongly recommend that you read the SEC advisory to investors concerning Internet Stock Fraud, which can be found at:



<http://www.sec.gov/consumer/cyberfr.htm>