



MELIOR DISCOVERY, INC.

Melior is a start-up drug development company that is using its Indications Discovery platform to systematically identify new therapeutic indications for development stage pharmaceutical compounds. Numerous blockbuster drugs—including Viagra (erectile dysfunction), Gemzar (anticancer), Propecia (hair loss) and Evista (osteoporosis) are marketed for uses that were accidentally discovered while the drug was being developed for an entirely different purpose. Building on the knowledge that drugs frequently have multiple uses, Melior has constructed a platform to screen compounds previously shown to be safe in humans to identify new uses that can be developed with less risk, time and money than a new drug candidate.

The Indications Discovery platform comprises a large number of the in vivo assays that are currently used by pharmaceutical biologists in assessing the suitability of a compound to progress to the next stage of development. Melior will use a method that compresses nearly 50 of these assays in a way that it makes it practical to test a molecule for activity across a variety of therapeutic indications in a time and cost efficient way.

Initially, Melior will target compounds that have not been pursued to commercialization by other companies for strategic reasons or as a result of inadequate efficacy in clinical studies for the original indication. In collaboration with Dr. Chris Lipinski, a recognized expert in evaluating the “druggability” of small molecule agents, Melior has compiled a database of compounds to screen for new uses. The company will be actively exploring a variety of collaborations with biopharmaceutical companies, including screening contracts and co-development partnerships.

Melior will use the BioAdvance Greenhouse funding to complete the company’s build-out and initiate operation of the Indications Discovery platform.

Management

Andrew Reaume, Ph.D., MBA, CEO, spearheaded global development of a multiplexed in vivo assay platform, from conception through development and implementation of the approach, when he was a senior business analyst at Pfizer. Previously, he was a research scientist at Cephalon, where he created novel animal disease models for neurodegenerative diseases and supported licensing activities. Dr. Reaume received a Ph.D. in genetics from the University of Connecticut and an MBA with honors from the Wharton School.

Michael S. Saporito, Ph.D., Vice President of Research, Dr. Saporito was most recently Group Leader in Biology at Locus Pharmaceuticals, a computational drug design company. Previously, he was a scientist at Cephalon, where he was lead pharmacologist for a novel Parkinson’s disease agent currently in Phase III trials. Dr. Saporito received a Ph.D. in pharmacology from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science and conducted post-doctoral studies at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

For more information contact Dr. Andrew Reaume, CEO, Melior at reaumeag@yahoo.com.