Syncona

Syncona Update

September 2020

Syncona

Building the next generation of healthcare companies

Key Announcements

Syncona expands cell therapy portfolio
14.09.2020

Syncona announces the foundation of macrophage cell therapy company Resolution Therapeutics, as sole investor, with a £26.8 million commitment in a Series A financing as well as, a co-led $110.0 million Series A financing for T-cell receptor company Neogene Therapeutics, with a $19.0 million commitment.

Resolution investigates the use of macrophages for the treatment of patients with end stage liver disease. Neogene was founded in 2019 around the work of world-class founders, Dr Ton Schumacher and Dr Carsten Linnemann, and is developing an engineered cell therapy product for solid tumours based on a patient's own neoantigens.

The Syncona Foundation

We're proud to support The Syncona Foundation. The Syncona Foundation was set up in 2012 with charitable objectives focusing on the prevention, treatment, cure and ultimately eradication of cancer and other diseases, as well as other charitable activities. Since that time, we have donated over £31 million to charities which are having significant impact across the UK and throughout the world. We have recently published on our website, case studies, detailing the charities' hard work and impact to patients and families alike.

Link here to read all the charity case studies.

Key Media Coverage

These British stocks are challenging America's tech giants – and at a fraction of the price
The Telegraph 01.09.20

Sam Banstead of The Telegraph highlighted Syncona as a brilliant option for investors seeking broader exposure to British biotechnology companies. Alex Hunter, of Sarasin & Partners said, "Syncona has two enduring competitive edges. First, it has access to cutting edge biotechnology ideas with the help from science research charity Wellcome Trust and Cancer Research UK, who are both shareholders. Second, it has a great track record in building businesses around scientific people, who perhaps don't want to be subsumed into the apparatus of a large pharmaceutical company."

Why investors cannot resist immunotherapy
Financial Times 15.09.20

In the FT Health's special report on cell therapies, Clive Cookson spoke to Martin Murphy about Syncona's wide perspective on the field. The report gave an overview of Autolus, Achilles, Quell and the newly founded Resolution as it ran through the state of play in immunotherapy. "We are deeply engaged in modulating the immune system," Martin said. "The advent of cell and gene therapies around 2013 or 14 really made this possible, achieving remarkable outcomes in patients who were poorly served by existing technologies."

Neogene's $110M series A for individualized TCR approach in cancer
BioWorld 14.09.20

Nuala Moran of BioWorld covered Neogene Therapeutic's $110m series A financing round. She reported that "Syncona invested heavily ($19m) in the financing of the company" which looks to advance the development of a novel T-cell immunotherapy for treating solid tumours.

Two New Biotechs Spin Out from Edinburgh's Regenerative Medicine Centre
Scrip 16.09.20

Andrew McConaghie of Scrip wrote that Scotland's investment in regenerative medicine is paying off with two promising start-ups, one targeting liver disease, the other oncology, launching within days of each other. One of these, Resolution Therapeutics has been launched with a £26.8m series A investment from Syncona. Resolution is focused on developing macrophage cell therapy to help regenerate the liver in patients with end stage liver disease.

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Autolus

Developing next generation programmed T cell therapies for the treatment of cancer

Key Announcements

Autolus Therapeutics presents additional data on AUTO3 in DLBCL during the ESMO Virtual Congress 2020
08.09.2020

Autolus, announced new data highlighting progress on AUTO3, the company's CAR T cell therapy being investigated in the ALEXANDER study, a Phase 1/2 clinical trial in relapsed/refractory diffuse large B cell lymphoma, during the ESMO Virtual Congress, which initially began on 18 September. As of 14 September, 35 patients in the ALEXANDER Phase 1/2 clinical trial of AUTO3 have been treated and were evaluable for safety. In terms of efficacy data, of the 35 patients dosed, 30 patients were evaluable within their completed cohort.

AUTO3 Data Update Presentation – ESMO 2020
18.09.2020

Link to presentation

Key Media Coverage

#ESMO20: Autolus provides glimpse of next-generation CAR-T program, showing early positive safety data
Endpoints 18.09.20

Covering ESMO 2020, Max Gelman of Endpoints wrote that Autolus provided a glimpse of its next-generation CAR-T program. Autolus presented phase 2 cohort data for its AUTO3 program, demonstrating positive safety data from 35 participants.

Syncona

FREELINE

Freeline

Focused on developing curative gene therapies for chronic systemic diseases

Key Announcements

Freeline to participate in the Morgan Stanley Virtual 18th Annual Global Healthcare Conference & Chardan's 4th Annual Genetics Medicines conference.
10.09.2020

Freeline announced that Theresa Heggie, Chief Executive Officer, will participate in a fireside chat at the Morgan Stanley Virtual 18th Annual Global Healthcare Conference on September 15 at 8.00 am EDT. She will also present at Chardan's 4th Annual Genetic Medicines Conference at the revised time of 3.45 pm EDT on 6 October.

Freeline announces supply agreement for haemophilia B program
23.09.2020

Freeline announced a supply agreement with Thermo Fisher. This agreement secures dedicated production capacity and resources for Freeline from 2021 to 2027, inclusive. This will provide capacity for the planned Phase 2b/3 pivotal clinical trial and potential commercialisation of Freeline's haemophilia B program, FLT180a, using the Company's proprietary manufacturing platform and processes.

Freeline announces promotion of Romuald Corbau, Ph.D. to Chief Scientific Officer
28.09.2020

Freeline announced that Romuald Corbau, Ph.D. has been promoted to the role of Chief Scientific Officer. Since joining Freeline in 2017 as Vice President, Research, the announcement notes that, Dr. Corbau has played an important role in driving Freeline's clinical and pre-clinical programmes, as well as building out the Company's systemic gene therapy capabilities. He will continue to be a member of Freeline's Executive Leadership Team.

Romuald brings over 20 years of pharmaceutical industry and academic experience to Freeline, having started his pharmaceutical career at Pfizer Global Research & Development where he held positions of increasing responsibility in several therapeutic areas. He holds a Ph.D. from the Department of Tumor Virology at the German Centre for Cancer Research, Heidelberg, Germany.

Gyroscope Therapeutics

Developing gene therapies and surgical delivery systems for retinal diseases

Key Announcements

Gyroscope Therapeutics Announces Appointment of Sean Bohen to the Board of Directors
11.09.2020

Gyroscope announced that Bohen, has been appointed to the Board of Directors, effective immediately. Dr. Bohen will also serve as Chair of the Board's Research and Development Committee. Dr. Bohen brings more than 30 years of experience in the discovery and development of new medicines. Over the course of his career, he has made significant contributions to the early- and late-stage development of numerous FDA-approved drugs. Previously, Dr. Bohen was the Chief Medical Officer and Executive Vice President, Global Medicines Development, AstraZeneca LP, where he was responsible for AstraZeneca's worldwide product development and clinical programmes. He received both his Ph.D. in Biochemistry and M.D. from the University of California, San Francisco, and has been board certified in Internal Medicine and Medical Oncology.

Gyroscope Therapeutics Granted FDA Fast Track Designation for GT005, an Investigational Gene Therapy for Dry Age-Related Macular Degeneration
22.09.2020

Gyroscope announced that the U.S. FDA has granted Fast Track designation to GT005 for the treatment of geographic atrophy (GA) secondary to dry age-related macular degeneration (AMD). Fast Track designation was granted to GT005 for the treatment of people with GA who have specific mutations in their Complement Factor I (CFI) gene and low levels of the CFI protein in their blood. Enrolment in the Phase II EXPLORE study to evaluate GT005 in this group of people is underway. In addition to EXPLORE, Gyroscope also plans to initiate a second Phase II trial in 2020 that will evaluate GT005 in a broader group of people with GA.

Key Media Coverage

Gyroscope Therapeutics FDA clearance puts subretinal delivery device in Orbit
BioWorld 04.09.20

Nuala Moran of BioWorld wrote that Gyroscope is poised to move the field of ocular gene therapy on from the treatment of inherited rare diseases to address more common eye conditions, after receiving FDA 510(k) clearance for its Orbit SDS subretinal delivery device.

Local CBS Reno Story on EXPLORE
09.09.2020

Link to watch the coverage on the first patient dosed in Gyroscope's Phase II EXPLORE trial on American news channel, CBS.

Orbit Subretinal Delivery System for Gene Therapy: Interview with Mike Keane
Medgadget 22.09.20

Medgadget had the opportunity to talk to Mike Keane, Chief Technology Officer at Gyroscope, about the Orbit SDS, a technology which is designed to deliver therapies to the retina without the need for invasive procedures. Link to read the full interview.