



California Biotechnology News Update

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Biotechnology Medical Breakthroughs

ImmunoCellular Therapeutics Enters into Research Agreement to Support Phase II Clinical Trial of Cancer Vaccine

ImmunoCellular Therapeutics (Los Angeles) announced that it entered into a sponsored research agreement with The University of Pennsylvania to support process development and manufacturing in a planned Phase II clinical trial of the company's cancer vaccine product candidate for the treatment of the most common and aggressive form of brain cancer. [Read more](#)

Scientists Use Peptide to Inject Drugs Deeper into Cancer Cells

Cancer scientists working at the Sanford/Burnham Medical Research Institute in La Jolla have developed a new way to attack solid tumors. [Read more](#)

Researchers Find Antibodies that Appear to Work Against HIV

Researchers have discovered four types of antibodies that seem to form a barrier to prevent HIV from entering cells. The finding could open a new path in the development of a vaccine against the virus. [Read more](#)

Prescription Assistance Available Through Statewide Pilot Program

A statewide pilot program is being promoted through eight local clinics to help people enroll for Partnership for Prescription Assistance on the spot. The clinic program was established to offer face to face support for those needing assistance with prescription medications. Current clinics include:

- Native American Health Center in Oakland
- Clinica Sierra Vista in Fresno
- Clinica Sierra Vista in Bakersfield
- South Central Family Health Center in Los Angeles
- St. John's Well Child Health Center in Los Angeles
- Alma Family Resource Center in Los Angeles
- Clinica Oscar Romero in Los Angeles
- Additional clinics to be determined

For more information about the pilot program please contact Cherri Spriggs-Hernandez at (916) 448-4234.

Biotechnology Economic Contributions

Bayer to Build Innovation Center In San Francisco's Mission Bay

Bayer HealthCare will establish a U.S. Innovation Center in Mission Bay, CA rotating researchers through the facility and working with University of California, San Francisco to focus on building the company's product pipeline. The Center will house Bayer's hematology research program, but scientists focused on cardiology, oncology, women's health care and diagnostic imaging also will rotate through the center. [Read more](#)

LA BioMed Wins \$10M in Stimulus Grant Funding to Construct a New Research Building

Funded through the National Institutes of Health, the grant will pay for construction of a new Chronic Disease Clinical Research Center to be completed in the fall of 2013. The facility will house researchers who focus on chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), cardiac disease and HIV/AIDS. [Read more](#)

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Approve Plans to Build a "Biotech Incubator" on the USC Health Sciences Campus

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors directed the county's Chief Executive Officer to begin negotiations with Momentum LA (a wholly owned non-profit corporation of Momentum Biosciences, LLC) to produce a dynamic biotechnology environment within the LAC-USC Medical Center and USC Health Sciences campus. Momentum LA would create a small business incubator pilot program for start-up biotech firms. [Read more](#)

Formatech, Inc. Fillanthropy Program

Formatech Fillanthropy Program, supported by Massachusetts based Formatech, Inc., is awarding grants for many promising start-up companies that are struggling to obtain the sufficient funding needed to advance their products into and through clinical trials. Most recently, the Filanthropy Program has awarded grants for drug manufacturing services to California-based biotech companies including KAI Pharmaceuticals from South San Francisco for their secondary hyperparathyroidism treatment, and Tracon of San Diego for their advanced cancer treatment.

The Formatec Fillanthropy Program also asks that the selected companies provide a monetary donation (some fraction of the savings they realize through participation in the program) to help support a charitable organization in their fight against disease. For more information go to: www.formatech.com/about/fillanthropy.cfm

Biotechnology Workforce Development

National Lab Day

The Obama Administration's National Lab Day program recently asked the California Biotechnology Foundation and the BIOCOM Institute to partner with their nationwide, non-partisan group to reinvigorate student interest in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education. National Lab Day is a year round and ongoing movement to foster science education across the country through volunteers, university students, scientists, engineers, other STEM professionals and community members working together with educators and students to bring discovery-based science experiences to students in grades K-12.

The National Lab Day Website, www.nationallabday.org, is the portal through which students, educators and science experts connect. When an educator posts a project, National Lab Day helps them get the resources needed to bring that project to fruition. This is an excellent opportunity to connect California's biotechnology companies with statewide education programs. We hope that you will take a look at the site and help spread the word out about this exceptional program.

ACR 116

The California Biotechnology Foundation worked with Assemblymember Jerry Hill to promote ACR 116 which proclaimed May 12, 2010, as California Lab Day, and is modeled after National Lab Day and supports the California life science industry's mission to build and maintain a highly skilled and diverse biomedical workforce.

Science ACES (Advancing Classroom Education in Science) Program

CBF was especially pleased to facilitate National Lab Day's partnership with the BIOCOM Institute and its endorsement of the Institute's *Science ACES (Advancing Classroom Education in Science) Program*, which launched on June 11th. As one of the first industry-wide movements of its kind, the *ACES Program* seeks to bring biotech industry professionals into San Diego's middle school science classrooms.

Please contact Patty Cooper for more information about National Lab Day at patty.cooper@cabiotech.org. For more information about the *Science ACES Program* or to volunteer in the classroom, contact Kristi Grover at the BIOCOM Institute, kgrover@biocom.org.

California Biotechnology Foundation Member Spotlight

Daiichi Sankyo, Inc.

CBF gratefully acknowledges a program contribution by Daiichi Sankyo. Daiichi Sankyo, Inc. is committed to creating first-in-class therapies, and delivering these innovations as quickly and efficiently as possible to clinicians and patients who need them. With more than 100 years of scientific expertise across a wide range of therapeutic categories, the company draws upon a rich legacy of innovations and a robust pipeline of promising new compounds to discover, develop and commercialize products that improve the lives of patients world-wide. As early as 1899, when Daiichi Sankyo pioneers discovered epinephrine, through the isolation of B-vitamins, the development of the first statin and the first glitazones for diabetes, Daiichi Sankyo's therapies and treatments have stood the test of time. These discoveries have established a lasting impact on the field of medicine and highlight the company's commitment to discovering medicines that improve the lives of patients with chronic disease. In working towards this goal, Daiichi Sankyo centers on four core disease areas: thrombotic disorders, malignant neoplasm, diabetes mellitus and autoimmune diseases/rheumatoid arthritis as well as three franchise areas of hypertension, atherosclerosis and bacterial infections. Their innovative research and manufacturing takes place around the globe where they rely on seven research and development centers and the expertise of more than 2,600 research scientists.

In addition to their global reputation as a scientific leader, Daiichi Sankyo is committed to the communities where they live and do business by identifying needs and helping provide philanthropic solutions. The goal is to ensure that their neighbors and overall community benefits from the company's success. Whether it is supporting education programs to excite children about science and help build the next generation of researchers who someday will make groundbreaking discoveries, educating patients about the risks and management of cardiovascular disease,



providing prescription assistance to those in need or providing support for local food banks or the American Heart Association, Daiichi Sankyo's mission is to be a true corporate citizen and serve as an active member of the community by making a profound impact on every citizen. For more information about Daiichi Sankyo contact Dean Marcoccia at dmarcoccia@dsi.com.

If you are interested in a California Biotechnology Foundation sponsorship please contact Patty Cooper at patty.cooper@cabiotech.org or (916) 233-3499.

Biotechnology Spotlight – DiversityInc's 2010 Top Companies

Congratulations to California's biotech companies that made DiversityInc's 2010 Top Companies lists. California's biotech industry understands better than any other industry that a diverse workforce is essential to the ultimate success of the entire organization. Biotech companies statewide dedicate extensive time and resources to provide education and training to historically underserved populations.

In the DiversityInc's Top 10 Companies for Executive Women and Asian Americans categories, Johnson & Johnson and Abbott scored high on both lists. In the 25 Noteworthy Companies category, Pfizer Inc., and Eli Lilly and Co. were highlighted for their potential as diversity leaders. For more information about DiversityInc's Top Companies lists go to www.diversityinc.com.