

ALLIANCE UPDATE

BIOGEN

Companies	Agreement
BioChem Pharma & Antisoma	BioChem Pharma has purchased a 21 percent stake in Antisoma for \$1 million, with a five-year option to increase its stake, on a fully diluted basis, to 25 percent. The two have entered into a joint licensing and collaboration agreement to develop diagnostic and therapeutic products in the field of oncology.
Biogen & Medeva	The High Court in London has ruled that Medeva's hepatitis B vaccine infringes on Biogen's patent for hepatitis B antigens. The decision prevents Medeva from marketing a vaccine that infringes on Biogen's patents. Biogen receives royalty revenues for hepatitis B vaccines.
Cell Genesys & CellPro	The two will collaborate to facilitate the initial clinical evaluation of genetically engineered anti-HIV T-cells developed by Cell Genesys. The engineered T-cells will be modified with Cell Genesys' universal receptors directed against HIV. CellPro's Ceparate cell-separation technology will be used to increase the efficiency of T-cell purification.
Chiron & International Murex Technologies	Based on a ruling in the Patents Court in London, Murex is free to continue to sell its hepatitis C viral-antibody-detection products in the U.K. and internationally. The court ruled that, while Murex's products infringe the Chiron patent, the patent is currently not enforceable due to an invalid provision contained in the licensing agreement between Chiron and Ortho Diagnostic Systems.
Cygnus Therapeutic Systems & Proctor & Gamble	The two will develop a new product using one of Cygnus' delivery systems for a potentially significant consumer market. Proctor & Gamble has exclusive worldwide marketing rights to the product, which Cygnus will manufacture.
Gensia & Ohmeda	Gensia signed an exclusive distribution agreement with Ohmeda to market Brevibloc in Europe and certain other countries. Brevibloc is an ultra-short acting, intravenous beta-blocker indicated primarily for perioperative tachycardia and hypertension.
Genzyme & Vical	The two will evaluate the use of Vical's cytofectins—a class of cationic lipids that provide an alternative to viral vectors for <i>in vivo</i> gene delivery—to treat cystic fibrosis. Genzyme has an option to take an exclusive license to Vical's cytofectins for cystic-fibrosis treatments.
Macronex & Boron Biologicals	Boron will provide boron reagents to Macronex. Macronex will combine these reagents with its anti-inflammatory peptide compounds and then evaluate these boronated compounds through its bioassay screening system, which uses human macrophages.
Macronex & Phytopharmaceutical	Phytopharmaceuticals, a subsidiary of Escagenetics, will provide Macronex with plant extracts and compounds. Using its bioassay technology, Macronex will evaluate their effects on human macrophages. Phytopharmaceuticals will then identify and characterize the promising compounds.
MedImmune & Roche Diagnostic Systems	MedImmune will license certain technologies to Roche to develop a diagnostic kit for human parvovirus B19. The virus kills the precursors to red blood cells, resulting in a drop in red blood cells.
MicroProbe & Proctor & Gamble	The two will evaluate the clinical efficacy of MicroProbe's Affirm DP Microbial Identification Test System, a DNA-probe-based diagnostic test to aid dental professionals in the diagnosis and treatment of periodontal disease.
Oncologix & Boehringer Ingelheim	Oncologix has obtained the worldwide exclusive rights to Boehringer Ingelheim's OLX-102 to treat non-small-cell lung cancer as adjuvant therapy. Boehringer has reserved exclusive rights to manufacture and market OLX-102 in Europe.
PerSeptive & Sepracor & Pharmacia	PerSeptive Biosystems has started an infringement action against Sepracor and Pharmacia Biotech in Federal Court in Boston on U.S. patents 5,019,270 and 5,228,989, both of which relate to perfusion chromatography. Both Sepracor and Pharmacia deny infringing the patents.
Protein Design Labs & Corange	Corange, the parent company of Boehringer Mannheim, will invest up to \$75 million in Protein Design Labs (PDL) through the purchase of PDL common stock. Corange will initially invest \$30 million in PDL by purchasing 1.2 million newly issued shares of PDL at \$25 per share, giving it 8.1 percent of PDL, on a fully diluted basis. Under a separate licensing agreement, Corange will acquire certain marketing rights to several PDL products and will make payments to PDL of up to \$131 million.
SciClone & Alpha 1 Biomedicals	Due to a commitment by Alpha 1 to supply SciClone with Zadaxin thymosin alpha-1, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California found that it was not required to grant SciClone's request for a preliminary injunction against Alpha 1 Biomedicals. SciClone recently received approval to market Zadaxin in Singapore for chronic hepatitis B.
Somatix Therapy & Baxter Healthcare	The two will jointly develop a novel gene-therapy approach to treat hemophilia. Somatix will develop a genetically modified cell line designed to overproduce the clotting proteins Factor VIII and Factor IX. These transduced cells will be incorporated into Baxter's membrane device for the <i>in vivo</i> production of these clotting proteins. Baxter will conduct clinical trials and market the product worldwide.
Survival Technology & Canadian Forces	Survival secured its first contract for the Binaject auto-injector, which stores compounds in dry form and mixes them in solution prior to self-injection by the patient. The technology should open the fields of patient self-administration and home health care to injectable biologics. The initial contract is with the Canadian Forces to develop an auto-injector with nerve-agent antidote for military use.
Tanox Biosystems & Ciba-Geigy	Ciba-Geigy has returned to Tanox all rights to develop certain protective monoclonal antibodies against the AIDS virus. Ciba's decision results, in part, from the uncertainty of successful clinical development of the antibodies based on current assay technology.
Tularik & Yamanouchi Pharmaceutical	The two will collaborate on research to develop small molecules that modulate the activity of transcription factors associated with a variety of inflammatory diseases such as asthma, arthritis, and transplant rejection.

PDL

—Mike Ginsberg