

Prescient strategic collaboration with MD Anderson Cancer Center to develop unique blood cancer binder for OmniCAR

Key points

- **Prescient announces collaboration with MD Anderson Cancer Center, the largest cancer centre in the US**
- **Collaboration to create OmniCAR T cells armed with novel binder to create best-in-class cellular immunotherapies for blood cancers**
- **Brings internal cancer cell targets into play, to complement Prescient's binders**

MELBOURNE Australia, 7 September 2022 – Prescient Therapeutics (“Prescient”; ASX: PTX), a clinical stage oncology company developing personalised therapies to treat cancer, today announced a strategic collaboration with the largest cancer centre in the US¹, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (“MD Anderson”) with the goal of creating best-in-class, adaptable CAR-T cell therapies to treat hematological malignancies.

The agreement is designed to combine Prescient’s OmniCAR modular “plug and play” CAR platform with an undisclosed, proprietary binder discovered by MD Anderson’s ECLIPSE (coEvolution of Leukemia and Immunity Post Stem cEll transplant) platform. ECLIPSE has established a broad sample library, enabling research to uncover unique binders that may allow for targeting blood cancer cells in a manner that is distinct to CAR-T therapies. These binders are T cell receptor (TCR)-like antibodies which find cancer cells in a similar immune matching mechanism as is used during organ donor matching for transplantation.

A key benefit to using TCR-like binders is their ability to target proteins that are usually on the inside of a tumour cell, as distinct from antigens present on the surface of tumour cells, thus opening up a new range of options for cellular therapy targets. TCR-like binders are expected to be highly specific, with no expected cross-reactivity to healthy tissues, which is important for safety. This will be especially important when targeting cancer cells that do not express appreciable levels of tumour-associated antigens on their surface.

Multi-arming OmniCAR-T cells with PTX binders against tumour-associated antigens (like its CD33 and CLL1 binders) as well as novel TCR-like binders that target cancer cells using immune matching mechanisms, has the potential to result in synergies including increased efficacy and a broader spectrum of cancer killing. It consolidates OmniCAR at the forefront of cellular immunotherapy, with modular, controllable cell therapies that target both proteins on the surface, and now, inside cancer cells.

¹ Newsweek and Statista, 8 Oct 2021

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This collaboration will focus initially on a binder to an undisclosed target present on leukemic blasts and leukaemic stem cells, whose expression correlates strongly with poor outcomes. Notably, this binder does not recognise healthy bone marrow, thereby potentially affording a unique combination of efficacy and safety. OmniCAR cells and binders will be manufactured and tested by the ECLIPSE team headed by Jeffrey Molldrem, M.D., professor and chair *ad interim* of Hematopoietic Biology and Malignancy at MD Anderson.

The costs will be shared equally by Prescient and MD Anderson and both parties will share ownership of the resultant therapeutic product commensurately.

Prescient’s Senior Vice President of Scientific Affairs, Dr Rebecca Lim, said, “A key challenge in developing effective cancer therapies is identifying targets on the surface of these tumour cells, and then being able to bind to these targets. This is where the ECLIPSE platform has yielded some valuable breakthroughs in target identification and creating unique binders to these novel targets – targets that until now have been hidden inside the cancer cells.”

“An additional challenge in treating most cancers is the heterogeneity of the antigen expression, and the fact that these change over time. This is where the power of the OmniCAR platform comes to the fore. OmniCAR enables novel TCR-like binders to be uniquely combined with Prescient’s binders, to result in a multi-valent and controllable cell therapy capable of addressing a much broader array of blood cancer cells in order to get the best chance of optimal patient outcomes. Furthermore, it enables multiple targets to be addressed over time if the patient happens to relapse.”

Prescient Managing Director and CEO Steven Yatomi-Clarke said, “Prescient is delighted to enter this strategic partnership with MD Anderson. We believe that OmniCAR is a transformational platform for cellular immunotherapy, and we look forward to testing the potential of this promising TCR-like binder for blood cancers.”

“Adding this TCR-like binder to Prescient’s armament changes the game by now being able to also target aberrant proteins inside the cancer cell that have been brought to the cell surface.”

“The “plug and play” nature of the OmniCAR platform enables this TCR-like binder to be used in conjunction with OmniCAR’s existing binders, depending on the antigen profile of the patient. These are the first important steps in creating a cell therapy ecosystem with OmniCAR at its heart, being adapted to match the antigen profile of individual patients.”

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Join an investor briefing

CEO and MD of Prescient Therapeutics, Steven Yatomi-Clarke, will be holding an investor briefing at 12pm (AEST) today and at 7pm (AEST) tomorrow 8th September, where he will provide a company update and discuss this announcement in more detail. [Register for a session here.](#)

About Prescient Therapeutics Limited (Prescient)

Prescient Therapeutics is a clinical stage oncology company developing personalised medicine approaches to cancer, including targeted and cellular therapies.

Cell Therapies

OmniCAR: is a universal immune receptor platform enabling controllable T-cell activity and multi-antigen targeting with a single cell product. OmniCAR's modular CAR system decouples antigen recognition from the T-cell signalling domain. It is the first universal immune receptor allowing post-translational covalent loading of binders to T-cells. OmniCAR is based on technology licensed from Penn; the SpyTag/SpyCatcher binding system licensed from Oxford University; and other assets.

The targeting ligand can be administered separately to CAR-T cells, creating on-demand T-cell activity post infusion and enables the CAR-T to be directed to an array of different tumour antigens. OmniCAR provides a method for single-vector, single cell product targeting of multiple antigens simultaneous or sequentially, whilst allowing continual re-arming to generate, regulate and diversify a sustained T-cell response over time.

Prescient is developing OmniCAR programs for next-generation CAR-T therapies for Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML); Her2+ solid tumours, including breast, ovarian and gastric cancers; and glioblastoma multiforme (GBM).

CellPryme-M: Prescient's novel, ready-for-the-clinic, CellPryme-M technology enhances adoptive cell therapy performance by shifting T and NK cells towards a central memory phenotype, improving persistence, and increasing the ability to find and penetrate tumours. CellPryme-M is a 24-hour, non-disruptive process during cell manufacturing. Cell therapies that could benefit from additional productivity in manufacturing or increased potency and durability in-vivo, would be good candidates for CellPryme-M.

Targeted Therapies

PTX-100 is a first in class compound with the ability to block an important cancer growth enzyme known as geranylgeranyl transferase-1 (GGT-1). It disrupts oncogenic Ras pathways by inhibiting the activation of Rho, Rac and Ral circuits in cancer cells, leading to apoptosis (death) of cancer cells. PTX-100 is believed to be the only GGT-1 inhibitor in the world in clinical development. PTX-100 demonstrated safety and early clinical activity in a previous Phase 1 study and recent PK/PD basket study of hematological and solid malignancies. PTX-100 is now in a Phase 1b expansion cohort study in T cell lymphomas, where it has shown encouraging efficacy signals and safety.

PTX-200 is a novel PH domain inhibitor that inhibits an important tumour survival pathway known as Akt, which plays a key role in the development of many cancers, including breast and ovarian cancer, as well as leukemia. Unlike other drug candidates that target Akt inhibition, PTX-200 has a novel mechanism of action that specifically inhibits Akt without non-specific kinase inhibition effects. This highly promising compound is currently in a Phase 1b/2 trial in relapsed and refractory AML, where it has resulted in 4 complete remissions so far. PTX-200 previously generated encouraging Phase 2a data in HER2-negative breast cancer and Phase 1b in recurrent or persistent platinum resistant ovarian cancer.

The Board of Prescient Therapeutics Limited has approved the release of this announcement.

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Steven Yatomi-Clarke
CEO & Managing Director
Prescient Therapeutics
steven@ptxtherapeutics.com

Investor enquiries:
Sophie Bradley – Reach Markets
+61 450 423 331
ir@reachmarkets.com.au

Media enquiries:
Andrew Geddes – CityPR
+61 2 9267 4511
ageddes@citypublicrelations.com.au

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Certain statements made in this document are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the safe harbor provisions of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements are not historical facts but rather are based on the current expectations of Prescient Therapeutics Limited (“Prescient” or the “Company”), their estimates, assumptions, and projections about the industry in which Prescient operates. Material referred to in this document that use the words ‘estimate’, ‘project’, ‘intend’, ‘expect’, ‘plan’, ‘believe’, ‘guidance’, and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements and should be considered an at-risk statement. These forward-looking statements are not a guarantee of future performance and involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, some of which are beyond the control of Prescient or which are difficult to predict, which could cause the actual results, performance, or achievements of Prescient to be materially different from those which may be expressed or implied by these statements. These statements are based on our management’s current expectations and are subject to a number of uncertainties and risks that could change the results described in the forward-looking statements. Risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, general industry conditions and competition, general economic factors, global pandemics and related disruptions, the impact of pharmaceutical industry development and health care legislation in the United States and internationally, and challenges inherent in new product development. In particular, there are substantial risks in drug development including risks that studies fail to achieve an acceptable level of safety and/or efficacy. Investors should be aware that there are no assurances that results will not differ from those projected and Prescient cautions shareholders and prospective shareholders not to place undue reliance on these forward- looking statements, which reflect the view of Prescient only as of the date of this announcement. Prescient is not under a duty to update any forward-looking statement as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law or by any appropriate regulatory authority.

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Supplemental COVID-19 Risk Factors

Please see our website : [Supplemental COVID-19 Risk Factors](#)

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