SciLeads

BioPharma

Latest Updates

Here are this week's BioPharma updates - May 26th, 2025.

Funding

- <u>CellCentric</u> (Cambridge, United Kingdom) raised \$120M in Series C funding to advance inobrodib, an oral p300/CBP inhibitor, for the treatment of multiple myeloma.
- <u>Juvenescence</u> (Ramsey, Isle of Man) raised \$76M in Series B-1 funding to advance its Al-enabled therapeutics pipeline and deliver key clinical readouts for agerelated diseases.
- ReproNovo (Lausanne, Switzerland) raised \$65M in Series A funding to advance its Phase 2 pipeline targeting infertility and adenomyosis in reproductive medicine and women's health.
- <u>FORE Biotherapeutics</u> (PA, USA) raised \$38M in Series D-2 funding to advance Phase 2 trials of plixorafenib, a BRAF inhibitor for CNS tumors and other BRAF-driven cancers.
- <u>PHASE Scientific</u> (Hong Kong) raised \$34M in Series A funding to advance urinebased diagnostic technology for early disease detection across cancers, women's health, and infectious diseases.
- <u>Emtora Biosciences</u> (TX, USA) received a \$3M Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas grant to support its Phase 3 trial of eRapa for familial adenomatous polyposis.
- MantaBio (MA, USA) raised \$2.5M in seed funding to accelerate development of its automated platform for microbial contamination detection in biologics manufacturing.
- <u>Life Molecular Imaging</u> (Berlin, Germany) received a \$2.16M Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation grant to advance development of [18F]F-DED PET imaging for investigating neuroinflammation in Alzheimer's disease.
- RevolKa Ltd. (Sendai, Japan) raised \$1.4M in Series A extension funding to advance Al-driven protein engineering for drug discovery in rare diseases.
- Entos Pharmaceuticals (Edmonton, Canada) received a \$1M CureDuchenne Ventures grant to develop a muscle-targeting gene therapy for Duchenne muscular dystrophy using its Fusogenix PLV delivery platform.
- <u>Senti Biosciences</u> (CA, USA) received a \$1M California Institute of Regenerative Medicine grant to advance clinical development of SENTI-202, a Logic Gated CAR-NK cell therapy for hematologic malignancies.

- <u>ME Therapeutics</u> (Vancouver, Canada) received \$140K in funding to advance development of its mRNA therapeutic program targeting myeloid cell biology for cancer and inflammatory disease.
- <u>Eascra Biotech</u> (MA, USA) received a \$100K MassVentures SBIR Targeted Technologies (START) grant to support development of its Janus Base Nanoparticles (JBNps), a non-lipid nanoparticle drug delivery platform.

Emerging

- <u>Massalia Therapeutics</u> (Marseille, France) raised an undisclosed amount in seed funding to advance an IND-ready first-in-class therapeutic targeting cancer and fibrosis.
- <u>Apreo Health</u> (CA, USA) emerged from stealth to pioneer a non-destructive implant, the BREATHE Airway Scaffold, to relieve lung pressure in severe emphysema patients without harming healthy tissue.
- <u>Mubadala Bio</u> (Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates) launched to boost the UAE's
 pharmaceutical manufacturing capacity and global presence in life sciences by
 producing a wide range of medicines and supporting national drug security and
 innovation.
- <u>Elvinix</u> (DE, USA) is currently operating in stealth to develop a functional cure for Type 1 Diabetes through innovative biotech solutions.
- <u>Apoha</u> (London, United Kingdom) is currently operating in stealth to develop Sensory Intelligence that seamlessly integrates machines into physical reality.
- <u>epiome.ai</u> (London, United Kingdom) is currently operating in stealth mode to develop advanced Al-driven precision diagnostics aimed at transforming the early detection and personalized treatment of neurological diseases.

Post IPO Equity

- Gyre Therapeutics (CA, USA) raised \$20M through an underwritten public offering to advance its Phase 2 clinical trial of F351 for MASH-associated liver fibrosis, support R&D, manufacturing, working capital, and general corporate purposes.
- NanoVibronix (NY, USA) raised \$10M through an underwritten public offering to redeem debt and support general corporate purposes.
- <u>Poolbeg Pharma</u> (London, United Kingdom) raised \$6M through an oversubscribed placing and direct subscription of new ordinary shares to advance its clinical trials, extend its financial runway into 2027, and support working capital.
- <u>CEL-SCI</u> (VA, USA) raised \$5M through an underwritten public offering to fund the continued development of Multikine, general corporate purposes, and working capital.
- Mainz Biomed (Mainz, Germany) raised \$4M through a follow-on offering to support its operations and ongoing cancer diagnostics programs

- <u>Protagenic Therapeutics Inc.</u> (NY, USA) raised \$3.1M through warrant exercises to fund working capital and advance peptide-based drug candidates for stress-related and central nervous system disorders.
- <u>Telomir Pharmaceuticals</u> (FL, USA) raised \$3M through a direct equity investment from The Bayshore Trust, its largest shareholder, to strengthen its balance sheet and fund Telomir-1's upcoming IND submission for a rare disease indication.
- <u>XORTX Therapeutics</u> (Calgary, Canada) raised \$3M through a private placement to advance its gout programs and support working capital and general corporate purposes.
- <u>AB Science</u> (Paris, France) raised ~\$2M through a private placement to finance ongoing activities, primarily clinical development of its AB8939 program.
- <u>PreveCeutical Medical Inc.</u> (Vancouver, Canada) raised \$748K through a non-brokered private placement to pay outstanding payables, operating expenses, and general working capital.
- <u>NorthX Biologics</u> (Matfors, Sweden) raised an undisclosed amount through a growth equity investment to accelerate expansion, enhance facilities, broaden service lines, and extend its U.S. commercial reach.
- <u>Outlook Therapeutics, Inc.</u> (NJ, USA) raised an undisclosed amount through an underwritten public offering of common stock and warrants to support working capital and general corporate purposes.

Post IPO Debt

- <u>Teva Pharmaceutical</u> Industries (Tel Aviv, Israel) raised \$2.3B through an upsized offering of senior notes to fund tender offers for existing debt, pay related fees and expenses, and for general debt repayment purposes.
- <u>Idorsia Pharmaceuticals Ltd</u> (Allschwil, Switzerland) raised ~\$165M through a new money facility backed by bondholders to extend its cash runway to mid-2026 and support ongoing operations amid convertible debt restructuring.
- <u>Cizzle Biotechnology Plc</u> (London, United Kingdom) raised \$190K through a convertible loan note subscribed by an existing investor to support the roll-out of its early cancer test in the UK and Europe and advance its growth strategy.

Mergers and Acquisitions

- <u>Sanofi</u> (Paris, France) to acquire <u>Vigil Neuroscience</u> (MA, USA) for up to \$670M, adding the oral TREM2 agonist VG-3927 for Alzheimer's disease to its neurology pipeline.
- <u>Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.</u> (NY, USA) has agreed to acquire <u>23andMe</u> (CA, USA) for \$256M to bolster its drug discovery capabilities using 23andMe's extensive genetic data. The acquisition supports Regeneron's goal of improving human health through genetics-based research while maintaining 23andMe's consumer genetics business.

- Waters Corporation (MA, USA) has acquired <u>Halo Labs</u> (OR, USA), a developer of specialized imaging technologies for particle analysis in cell, protein, and gene therapies, to expand Waters' capabilities in analytical and bioprocessing testing for large molecule therapies.
- <u>Altos Labs</u> (CA, USA) acquired <u>Dorian Therapeutics</u> (CA, USA), an anti-aging startup, to expand its portfolio of longevity-focused therapeutics.

Partnerships

- <u>Pfizer</u> (NY, USA) and <u>3SBio Inc.</u> (Shanghai, China) announced a ~\$6.05B exclusive global (ex-China) licensing agreement for SSGJ-707, a bispecific antibody for cancer.
- Orionis Biosciences (MA, USA) and Genentech (CA, USA) announced a ~\$2.1B multi-year collaboration for the discovery of small-molecule monovalent glues using Orionis's Allo-Glue™ platform.
- <u>VantAl</u> (NY, USA) and <u>Blueprint Medicines</u> (MA, USA) expanded their collaboration to include additional drug programs targeting previously undruggable diseases, with VantAl eligible for up to \$1.67 billion in milestone payments and royalties.
- <u>CRISPR Therapeutics</u> (MA, USA) and <u>Sirius Therapeutics</u> (CA, USA) announced a \$95M partnership to co-develop and co-commercialize SRSD107, a nextgeneration Factor XI siRNA therapy for thromboembolic disorders, with options for up to two additional siRNA programs.
- Murdoch Children's Research Institute (Melbourne, Australia) and Retro Biosciences (CA, USA) announced a \$35M research and commercial licensing agreement to advance MCRI's blood stem cell technology for developing new personalized therapies for blood disorders.
- <u>GENFIT</u> (Loos, France) received a \$28.8M milestone payment from <u>Ipsen</u> (France) after Iqirvo (elafibranor) secured pricing and reimbursement approval for PBC in Italy, under their licensing and collaboration agreement.
- <u>Lamassu Biotech</u> (NC, USA) and <u>The Ohio State University</u> (OH, USA) announced a research collaboration to advance RABI-767, a novel therapeutic for acute pancreatitis in dogs and humans.
- <u>Synoligo Biotechnologies</u> (NC, USA) and <u>Lumiphore</u> (CA, USA) announced a
 partnership to develop next-generation lanthanide-based oligonucleotide probes
 for diagnostic tests and life science research.
- <u>Porton Advanced</u> (NJ, USA) and <u>Hualong Biological</u> (China) announced a
 partnership for Porton Advanced to provide end-to-end CDMO services
 supporting the development and clinical advancement of Hualong's MultiActivated T Cell (MATC) therapy for solid tumors.
- Rani Therapeutics (CA, USA) and Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Tokyo, Japan) announced a research agreement to evaluate the RaniPill® oral delivery platform with two molecules for undisclosed targets.

- <u>Skye Bioscience Inc.</u> (CA, USA) and <u>Arecor Therapeutics</u> (Cambridge, United Kingdom) announced a formulation development collaboration to create a higher concentration version of nimacimab, Skye's CB1 inhibitor for obesity, using Arecor's Arestat™ technology.
- Maipl Therapeutics (NY, USA) and Endosure (MD, USA) announced a strategic
 partnership to accelerate clinical development of MA-4604, a first-in-class nonhormonal endometriosis therapy, by incorporating the ENDOSURE TEST—a
 rapid, non-invasive diagnostic—for improved patient identification and trial
 efficiency.
- Mirai Bio (MD, USA) and <u>Thermo Fisher Scientific</u> (MA, USA) announced a strategic partnership, including a direct investment, to accelerate the codevelopment and manufacturing of novel nucleic acid therapeutics, leveraging Mirai's machine intelligence-driven platform and Thermo Fisher's cGMP services and global manufacturing capabilities.
- <u>Tempus AI</u> (IL, USA) and <u>Verastem Oncology</u> (MA, USA) announced a collaboration to develop a companion diagnostic (CDx) test for KRAS-mutant recurrent low-grade serous ovarian cancer (LGSOC), leveraging Tempus' xT CDx assay to support ongoing and future clinical trials.
- <u>Viz.ai</u> (CA, USA), <u>Sanofi</u> (Paris, France), and <u>Regeneron</u> (NY, USA) announced a multi-year partnership to deploy and assess an Al-powered workflow for improved detection and management of high-risk COPD patients.
- <u>Antengene</u> (Shanghai, China) and <u>MSD</u> (NJ, USA) announced a global clinical collaboration to evaluate the combination of ATG-022, a CLDN18.2-targeting antibody-drug conjugate, and KEYTRUDA® (pembrolizumab) in patients with advanced solid tumors.
- <u>Evofem Biosciences</u> (CA, USA) and <u>Pharma 1 Drug Store LLC</u> (Dubai, United Arab Emirates) announced a license and supply agreement granting Pharma 1 exclusive Middle East rights to SOLOSEC®, with Evofem receiving upfront, regulatory, and sales-based milestone payments and supplying the product at cost-plus.
- <u>Neurogen Biomarking</u> (IL, USA) and <u>Aranscia</u> (TX, USA) announced a partnership to utilize Aranscia's lab and software solutions to support Neurogen's bloodbased biomarker platform for early detection of mild cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease.
- RamSoft (Toronto, Canada) and Therapixel (Nice, France) announced a
 commercial partnership to integrate Therapixel's Al-powered MammoScreen®
 breast imaging software into RamSoft's PowerServer™ and OmegaAl® platforms,
 enhancing cancer detection and radiologist workflow within cloud-based imaging
 systems.
- <u>Kaida BioPharma</u> (FL, USA) and <u>Northway Biotech</u> (Vilnius, Lithuania) announced a manufacturing agreement for KAD101, a novel prolactin receptor antagonist, to advance process development and cGMP production for an upcoming Phase 1 trial in platinum-resistant ovarian cancer.

- Aptar Digital Health (NY, USA) and AstraZeneca (Cambridge, United Kingdom)
 announced a licensing agreement to develop and commercialize Al-driven
 algorithms for early detection of cardiovascular, renal, and metabolic conditions
 such as chronic kidney disease during eye examinations.
- <u>Twist Bioscience</u> (CA, USA) and <u>Element Biosciences</u> (CA, USA) announced an expanded collaboration to develop exclusive library preparation and target enrichment workflows for Element's AVITI systems and Trinity flowcells, streamlining NGS applications for research and clinical markets.
- Roche (Switzerland) and Broad Clinical Labs (MA, USA) announced a strategic collaboration to develop and pilot clinical and research applications using Roche's next-generation SBX sequencing technology, with an initial focus on triobased whole genome sequencing for critically ill newborns and their parents.

Initial Public Offering (IPO)

 <u>Hinge Health</u> (CA, USA) raised an undisclosed amount through an initial public offering (IPO) to satisfy tax obligations related to equity compensation and support corporate activities.

Registered Direct Offering (RDO)

• <u>Jaguar Health</u> (CA, USA) raised \$1.5M through a registered direct offering to support general corporate purposes, including growth capital, working capital, operating expenses, debt repayment, and capital expenditures.

Closures and Layoffs

- Prime Medicine, Inc. (MA, USA) has announced they will be laying off 25% of their employees
- <u>Schrödinger</u> (NY, USA) has announced they will be laying off 60 employees which is approximately 7% of their workforce.
- <u>Eikon Therapeutics</u> (CA, USA) has announced a second round of layoffs in 19 months due to financial challenges stemming from changes in external circumstances.