

BioPharma

Latest Updates

Here are this week's BioPharma updates - **May 5th, 2025.**

Funding

- [Moderna](#) (MA, USA) raised \$176M in funding to expedite the creation of a pandemic influenza vaccine to combat potential bird flu infections in humans, with ongoing development and late-stage trials planned.
- [EnChannel Medical](#) (Guangzhou, China) raised \$82.2M in Series B funding to accelerate product development and advance clinical registration trials in China and internationally.
- [Etiome](#) (MA, USA) raised \$50M in Series A funding to advance its Temporal Biodynamics™ platform for developing preemptive medicines targeting chronic and progressive diseases.
- [deepull](#) (Barcelona, Spain) raised \$50M in Series C funding to finalize clinical validation and expedite the regulatory approval process of its UIICORE diagnostic system.
- [Zucara Therapeutics](#) (Toronto, Canada) raised \$25M in Series B funding to complete its Phase 2a clinical trial and develop a once-weekly version of ZT-01 for preventing hypoglycemia in people with diabetes.
- [Craif](#) (Tokyo, Japan) raised \$22M in Series C funding to expand its R&D and testing services in Japan and the U.S., aiming for FDA approval and insurance reimbursement.
- [Transverse Medical](#) (CO, USA) raised \$10M in Series B2 funding to support the clinical validation of its POINT-GUARD™ Cerebral Embolic Protection device for stroke prevention during TAVR procedures.
- [Azalea Vision](#) (Ghent, Belgium) raised \$9M in Series A funding to support the execution of its First-in-human clinical trial and advance its smart lens platform for intelligent ocular health.
- [Gestalt](#) (WA, USA) raised \$7.5M in Series A funding to expand its AI-powered digital pathology platform, PathFlow®, to enhance diagnostic accuracy and efficiency in healthcare and research organisations.
- [Epicore Biosystems](#) (MA, USA) raised \$6M in Series B funding to accelerate global expansion and scale next-generation sweat-sensing technologies.
- [VitriVax](#) (CO, USA) received a \$5M CEPI grant to develop the Atomic Layering Thermostable Antigen and Adjuvant (ALTA®) technology further using Rabies as a vaccine target.

- [Armata Pharmaceuticals](#) (CA, USA) raised \$4.65M in non-dilutive funding to support Phase 2a study closeout activities and preparation for an end-of-phase 2 meeting with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
- [Myosin Therapeutics](#) (FL, USA) received a \$3M National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) grant to support the initiation of a Phase 1 clinical trial for MT-110 as a treatment for methamphetamine use disorder.
- [Kardi AI](#) (Olomouc, Czech Republic) raised \$1.1M in funding to support international expansion and clinical validation of its AI-powered chest strap for detecting heart arrhythmias.
- [Basic Genomics](#) (Stockholm, Sweden) raised \$1.1M in funding to advance RNA characterization technologies and expand product development and commercialization.
- [Fusion Antibodies](#) (Belfast, United Kingdom) received a \$680K UKRI and InvestNI grant to develop a humanised therapeutic antibody to combat treatment-resistant cancers.
- [Vakona](#) (Umeå, Sweden) raised an undisclosed amount in funding to complete the process development of its innovative active substance as it moves toward the clinical phase.
- [Akita Biosciences](#) (OH, USA) received a Flu Lab grant of an undisclosed amount to evaluate the feasibility, acceptability, and safety of Profi Nasal Spray in U.S. healthcare workers.
- [Addex Therapeutics](#) (Geneva, Switzerland) received a Sinntaxis AB grant of an undisclosed amount to evaluate its dipraglurant for the treatment of brain injury recovery, including stroke and traumatic brain injury.

Emerging

- [Avidicure](#) (Amsterdam, Netherlands) launched with \$50M in Seed funding to advance the development of its dual agonistic, multifunctional antibody platform for oncology.
- [SynthioLabs](#) (CA, USA) emerged from stealth to streamline pharmaceutical operations by using AI-driven tools to accelerate reviews, ensure compliance, and boost engagement across the product lifecycle.
- Stately Bio (CA, USA) launched with \$12M in seed funding to develop the next generation of life-saving regenerative medicines with the world's most advanced ML cell imaging platform.
- Cycuria Therapeutics (Graz, Austria) launched with a grant from FFG and AWS to advance the development of its CUR-101 protein-based targeted therapy for acute myeloid leukaemia (AML).

Post IPO Equity

- [TriSalus Life Sciences](#) (CO, USA) raised \$22M through a private placement to fund working capital needs, support general corporate operations, and back initiatives to simplify its capital structure through a preferred stock exchange offer.

- [CND Life Sciences](#) (AZ, USA) raised \$13.5M to expand access to its Syn-One Test®, support clinical collaborations, and advance neurodiagnostic innovations targeting synuclein-related disorders like Parkinson's disease and dementia with Lewy bodies.

Post IPO Debt

- [Biohaven](#) (CT, USA) raised \$250M through a senior secured note purchase agreement to support clinical trials, commercialization efforts for troriluzole, and advancement of its broader therapeutic pipeline.

Mergers and Acquisitions

- [Novartis](#) (Basel, Switzerland) to acquire [Regulus Therapeutics](#) (CA, USA) for \$800M to advance the development and commercialization of farabursen for ADPKD treatment.
- Concentra Biosciences (MA, USA) to acquire [Kronos Bio](#) (MA, USA) for \$800M to advance its small molecule therapeutics for cancer and autoimmune diseases.
- [Merck KGaA](#) (Darmstadt, Germany) to acquire [SpringWorks Therapeutics](#) (CT, USA) to expand its portfolio in rare diseases and cancer treatments.
- [Healthy.io](#) (Tel Aviv, Israel) to acquire [Labrador Health](#) (Tel Aviv, Israel) to expand its portfolio of quantitative home-based kidney testing technologies.
- [Jade Biosciences](#) (MA, USA) to acquire [Aerovate Therapeutics](#) (MA, USA) to advance its portfolio of novel therapies for autoimmune diseases, with lead candidate JADE-001 expected to enter the clinic in 2025.
- AlphaRose Therapeutics (TX, USA) to acquire Alpha Anomeric (Paris, France) to integrate its novel oligonucleotide chemistry platform (abcDNA) into AlphaRose's development programs for neurogenetic developmental diseases.

Partnerships

- [Dimerix](#) (Melbourne, Australia) and [Amicus Therapeutics](#) (NJ, USA) announced a ~\$590M exclusive U.S. license agreement for DMX-200, a Phase 3 candidate for FSGS and other indications
- [Prilenia](#) (MA, USA) and [Ferrer](#) (Barcelona, Spain) announced a \$540M collaboration and license agreement for the commercialization and further development of pridopidine in Europe and select markets, including the treatment of Huntington's disease and ALS.
- [Sandoz](#) (Basel, Switzerland) and [Henlius](#) (Shanghai, China) announced a \$301M global collaboration to commercialize a biosimilar of ipilimumab in major markets including the US, EU, Japan, Canada, and Australia for the treatment of multiple cancers.

- [SOHM, Inc.](#) (CA, USA) announced a \$6M collaboration and license agreement with an undisclosed partner to advance the development of micro-dosed CAR-T therapies using SOHM's proprietary ABBIE genome editing system, aiming to accelerate clinical applications in cancer treatment.
- [LifT BioSciences](#) (London, United Kingdom) and [University of Galway](#) (Galway, Ireland), along with [Hooke Bio](#) (Shannon, Ireland), announced a collaboration to advance clinical trials for Immunomodulatory Alpha Neutrophils (IMANs), a first-in-class cell therapy designed to overcome treatment resistance in solid tumors, with trials set to begin in 2026.
- [HeartcoR Solutions](#) (IL, USA) and [Wellysis](#) (South Korea) announced partnership for exclusive rights to use the FDA-cleared S-Patch ECG wearable in global cardiac safety clinical trials, aiming to enhance remote monitoring, trial compliance, and data accuracy.
- [Complete Genomics](#) (CA, USA) and [Velsera](#) (MA, USA) announced partnership to deliver an end-to-end genetic testing solution combining DNBSEQ™ sequencing technology with Velsera's Clinical Genomics Workspace, aiming to streamline clinical oncology workflows from sequencing to actionable insights.
- [AccuStem](#) (London, United Kingdom) and [EmeritusDX](#) (CA, USA) announced an expanded strategic partnership for the commercialization of the MSC test for lung cancer screening in the US, aiming for a 2026 clinical launch to improve lung nodule risk stratification and patient outcomes.
- [NeoGenomics](#) (FL, USA) and [Ultima Genomics](#) (CA, USA) announced a collaboration and technology agreement for the use of Ultima's UG 100™ sequencing platform and ppmSeq™ technology to advance NeoGenomics' oncology diagnostics, including applications in liquid biopsy and minimal residual disease (MRD).
- [FYR Bio](#) (MT, USA) and [Mayo Clinic](#) (MN, USA) announced a collaboration to advance blood-based biomarkers for Parkinson's disease using FYR's EV-Omics platform, aiming to improve disease tracking, patient outcomes, and clinical trial precision.
- [Mainz Biomed](#) (Mainz, Germany) and [EDX Medical](#) (Cambridge, United Kingdom) announced a technology partnership to expand access to Mainz's molecular cancer diagnostic technology in the UK, aiming to enhance early cancer detection and personalized treatment.
- [Scipher Medicine](#) (MA, USA) and [InnoSIGN](#) (Eindhoven, Netherlands) announced a partnership to combine Scipher's immune disease RNAseq data with InnoSIGN's pathway analysis platform to identify biomarkers and advance precision therapies.
- [SOPHiA GENETICS](#) (Rolle, Switzerland) and [AstraZeneca](#) (Cambridge, United Kingdom) expanded their collaboration to deploy MSK-ACCESS® powered with SOPHiA DDM™ to 30 clinical institutions globally in 2025, advancing real-time liquid biopsy testing for cancer monitoring and supporting AstraZeneca's real-world evidence initiatives.

- [RoosterBio Inc.](#) (MD, USA) and [Thermo Fisher Scientific](#) (MA, USA) announced a collaboration to accelerate the development and GMP manufacturing of hMSC and exosome therapies, enabling biopharma companies to streamline production of clinical trial materials for degenerative disease treatments.
- [Curi Bio](#) (WA, USA) and [Cook MyoSite](#) (PA, USA) announced a strategic partnership to develop 3D human tissue models for accelerating drug discovery in muscle-related diseases, obesity, diabetes, and other metabolic disorders.
- [Er-Kim](#) (Istanbul, Turkey) and [Puma Biotechnology](#) (CA, USA) signed an agreement for Er-Kim to commercialize NERLYNX® (neratinib) in select Eastern European and Central Asian countries, including Armenia, Russia, and Kazakhstan, to treat HER2-positive breast cancer.
- [Addex Therapeutics](#) (Switzerland) and Sinntaxis AB (Lund, Sweden) announced a collaboration agreement to license mGlu5 inhibitors, including Addex's dipraglurant, for brain injury recovery.
- DCx Biotherapeutics Corporation (Vancouver, Canada) and [Repare Therapeutics](#) (Montreal, Canada) announced a multi-component deal including platform and asset licensing, facility transfer, and team integration to advance next-gen antibody drug conjugates for genetically-defined cancers.
- [Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation](#) (NY, USA) and [Siemens Healthineers](#) (Germany) announced partnership to license its SpeechDx dataset - launched in 2023 to develop speech-based biomarkers for early Alzheimer's detection and monitoring.
- [Haleon](#) (Weybridge, United Kingdom) and [Brightseed](#) (CA, USA) announced partnership to leverage its AI platform Forager® for discovering plant-based bioactive compounds, accelerating the development of nature-inspired, science-backed consumer health solutions.

Registered Direct Offering (RDO)

- [Alpha Tau Medical](#) (Jerusalem, Israel) raised \$36.9M through a registered direct offering to support general corporate purposes, including research and development, expanding manufacturing capabilities, and potential commercialization of its product candidates.

Closures and Layoffs

- [Ono Pharmaceutical](#) (MA, USA) is laying off 83 employees at its U.S. subsidiary effective June 30 to optimize its operations, as per a Worker Retraining Notification Act (WARN) notice.
- [Spruce Biosciences](#) (CA, USA) is laying off 55% of its workforce to prioritize the development of its traletsinidase alfa therapy for Sanfilippo syndrome type B (MPS IIIB), with layoffs effective immediately.
- [Octagon Therapeutics](#) (RI, USA) is winding down operations due to the deprioritization of a lead B cell immunomodulator program and unresolved biology questions. The closure is expected to affect around a dozen employees.

- [Bloomsbury Genetic Therapies](#) (London, United Kingdom) is closing down its operations due to difficult funding conditions despite promising clinical progress and multiple orphan drug designations.