



Current Agreements

Dealdoc

Research and licensing agreement for treatment of dyslipidemia

Ligand Pharmaceuticals
Omthera Pharmaceuticals

May 14 2014

Research and licensing agreement for treatment of dyslipidemia

Companies:	Ligand Pharmaceuticals Omthera Pharmaceuticals
Announcement date:	May 14 2014
Deal value, US\$m:	44.5 : sum of miletones

- [Details](#)
- [Financials](#)
- [Termsheet](#)
- [Press Release](#)
- [Filing Data](#)
- [Contract](#)

Details

Announcement date:	May 14 2014
Industry sectors:	Biotech Pharmaceutical Specialty pharma
Asset type:	Compound
Therapy areas:	Cardiovascular » Hypercholesterolemia Cardiovascular » Hypertriglyceridemia
Technology types:	Small molecules Development
Deal components:	Licensing Research
Stages of development:	Discovery

Financials

Deal value, US\$m:	44.5 : sum of miletones
Milestones, US\$m:	44.5 : milestone payments
Royalty rates, %:	n/d : tiered royalties ranging from mid to high single digits of net sales
Semi-quant royalties:	Mid single digit High single digit

Termsheet

Ligand Pharmaceuticals has entered into a licensing agreement and research collaboration with Omthera Pharmaceuticals for the development of products to treat dyslipidemia, including hypertriglyceridemia.

The research collaboration will target the development of novel products that utilize the proprietary Ligand-developed LTP TECHNOLOGY to improve lipid-lowering activity of certain omega-3 fatty acids.

Ligand will be eligible to receive payments of up to \$44.5 million upon the achievement of specific milestones, as well as tiered royalties ranging from mid to high single digits of net sales.

Omthera is solely responsible for all research and clinical development costs as well as commercialization of any product(s) derived from this collaboration.

Press Release

Ligand Pharmaceuticals Inc. (LGND) To Snag Up To \$44.5 Million In Licensing Pact

Ligand Signs Research and Licensing Agreement with Omthera Pharmaceuticals for Dyslipidemia-related Diseases

SAN DIEGO--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated (LGND) announced that it has entered into a licensing agreement and research collaboration with Omthera Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of AstraZeneca plc (AZN), for the development of products to treat dyslipidemia, including hypertriglyceridemia. The research collaboration will target the development of novel products that utilize the proprietary Ligand-developed LTP TECHNOLOGY™ to improve lipid-lowering activity of certain omega-3 fatty acids.

"This collaboration, our first with Ligand's newest platform technology, holds powerful potential. Ligand's proprietary LTP TECHNOLOGY and our rich history and vast knowledge in molecule discovery, design and targeting combine very well with Omthera's expertise in the clinical development of new therapies for lipid disorders," said John Higgins, Ligand's President and Chief Executive Officer. "With Omthera, we are partnering with an organization that is highly capable of developing and commercializing drug products with our LTP TECHNOLOGY to reach the estimated hundreds of millions people world-wide suffering from dyslipidemia-related diseases."

Under the terms of the agreement, Ligand will be eligible to receive payments of up to \$44.5 million upon the achievement of specific milestones, as well as tiered royalties ranging from mid to high single digits of net sales. Omthera is solely responsible for all research and clinical development costs as well as commercialization of any product(s) derived from this collaboration.

About Ligand's LTP TECHNOLOGY Platform

Ligand's LTP TECHNOLOGY is a broadened novel prodrug technology platform designed to selectively deliver a range of active pharmaceutical agents to the liver. It works by chemically modifying a biologically active molecule into an inactive prodrug form that will be administered and later activated in the liver by certain enzymes mainly expressed in the liver. The technology can be used to improve activity and/or safety of an existing drug or to develop new agents to treat liver diseases or diseases caused by homeostasis imbalance of circulating biomolecules controlled by the liver such as lipids and glucose, and is especially applicable to metabolic and cardiovascular diseases. Ligand's LTP TECHNOLOGY has expanded chemical class applicability and also removes certain by-products as compared to other targeting technologies.

About Hypertriglyceridemia and Dyslipidemia

Hypertriglyceridemia is a serum lipid disorder (dyslipidemia) defined by serum triglyceride levels of ≥ 150 mg/dL. It is associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular diseases, such as coronary artery disease, or acute risk of pancreatitis if triglyceride levels exceed 500 mg/dL. In 2011 dyslipidemia affected 352 million people aged 20 or older across the major pharmaceutical markets (United States, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, United Kingdom and Japan). Dyslipidemia is caused by genetic predisposition and various secondary/contributing factors, such as lifestyle and dietetic behavior which results in obesity, malnutrition or metabolic syndrome, as well as by numerous diseases such as diabetes, renal disease and autoimmune diseases. It is estimated that there are 5 million patients in the U.S. with triglyceride levels > 500 mg/dL. A recent National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey of dyslipidemia in the United States indicated that, while LDL-C levels have actually declined since the last National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey analysis, the percentage of patients with severe hypertriglyceridemia has risen sharply along with the dramatic increases in obesity. The National Cholesterol Education Program, or NCEP, Expert Panel on Detection, Evaluation and Treatment of High Blood Cholesterol recommends that the first priority for the management of severe hypertriglyceridemia be triglyceride reduction to decrease the risk of pancreatitis. In addition, severe hypertriglyceridemia is also associated with markedly increased risk for cardiovascular disease and recent studies have demonstrated that elevated triglyceride levels can be regarded as an independent risk factor for cardiovascular disease related events such as myocardial infarction, ischemic heart disease and ischemic stroke.

About Omthera Pharmaceuticals

Omthera Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is an emerging specialty pharmaceuticals company focusing its efforts on the clinical development of new therapies for dyslipidemia. Led by a team of experts with exceptional experience in developing new therapies for lipid disorders, Omthera is dedicated to developing innovative therapies for the millions of patients who have elevated triglyceride levels and increased risk of cardiovascular disease. AstraZeneca acquired Omthera Pharmaceuticals in July 2013.

About AstraZeneca

AstraZeneca is a global, innovation-driven biopharmaceutical business that focuses on the discovery, development and commercialization of prescription medicines, primarily for the treatment of cardiovascular, metabolic, respiratory, inflammation, autoimmune, oncology, infection and neuroscience diseases. AstraZeneca operates in over 100 countries and its innovative medicines are used by millions of patients worldwide. For more information please visit: www.astrazeneca.com

Filing Data

Not available.

Contract

Not available.