

AZ, Redx to target genetic drivers of tumor growth

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The research will complement AstraZeneca's strategic approach focused on genetic drivers of cancer and mechanisms of resistance to established and novel cancer therapies.

The research collaboration will involve Redx Pharma scientists working with AstraZeneca's oncology innovative medicines group to accelerate the drug discovery process.

Redx Pharma will use its early stage drug discovery capabilities to identify novel leads whose further development will be supported by AstraZeneca's extensive knowledge of the area and strong oncology expertise.

Under the terms of the agreement, Redx Pharma will receive an undisclosed upfront payment.

In addition, Redx Pharma is potentially eligible for significant development and commercial milestones, as well as tiered royalties as the program progresses.

AstraZeneca will have the sole rights to further develop and commercialize any programme resulting from the collaboration to add to its portfolio of cancer medicines.

Ms Susan Galbraith, head, oncology innovative medicines unit, AstraZeneca, said, "Collaboration and scientific exchange are at the heart of AstraZeneca's innovation-led strategy. This partnership is based on our own early stage oncology research focused on the genetic drivers of cancer and allows us to build on our combined drug discovery expertise. The co-location of our scientists will facilitate our collaboration. This agreement supports our strategic objectives of accelerating discovery and improving the quality and choice of candidate compounds for our early pipeline."

As part of the collaboration, AstraZeneca and Redx scientists will work together at Alderley Park, as well as at Redx's Liverpool facility where the project will be based.

Mr Neil Murray, chief executive, Redx Pharma, said, ".....This deal represents a significant development for our oncology

business-another major transaction and the first time we've had an opportunity to work with the oncology innovative medicines unit at AstraZeneca. The project is a good fit for both parties and builds on Redx's strong track record in rapidly developing novel drugs in cancer."