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Velabs collaborates with Chiome for GPCR-Specific functional antibody screening

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The collaboration will capitalize on Velabs' microfluidics-based technology in the field of functional antibody screening



Velabs Therapeutics, specializing in the fast generation of functional therapeutic antibodies, announced that it has entered into an agreement with Chiome Bioscience, Inc., Tokyo, to jointly discover modulatory and functional antibodies for one of Chiome's GPCR target genes.

The collaboration will capitalize on Velabs' microfluidics-based technology in the field of functional antibody screening. Under the terms of the agreement, Velabs will receive an upfront payment after a successful first feasibility study and milestone payments upon the achievement of specific development and regulatory events. In addition, Velabs will also be eligible to receive tiered royalties and milestones on the worldwide sales of products that arise from the collaboration.

Chiome Bioscience is a leading expert in the discovery and development of therapeutic antibodies for clinical applications with unmet medical need. The company has the exclusive license of the ADLib® antibody generation technology from RIKEN and has several preclinical and clinical development programs for its therapeutic antibodies.

Velabs Therapeutics, a recent startup company of the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), is a pioneer in microfluidic technology for screening of antibodies with modulatory function on complex signal proteins like GPCRs or ion channels. The high-throughput screening platform allows for testing millions of correctly paired fully natural IgGs from humans and mice for therapeutic effects, rather than just for binding.

Results are obtained in only a fraction of the time required by other technologies. The company offers customized screening services for users worldwide. Besides carrying out service projects, Velabs is currently also establishing its own proprietary pipeline of therapeutic antibody candidates for further joint development with pharma partners.