

BeiGene, SpringWorks Therapeutics form new entity MapKure

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MapKure to Develop an Investigational, Selective Next-Generation RAF Kinase Inhibitor



BeiGene, Ltd., a China headquartered commercial-stage biotechnology company focused on developing and commercializing innovative molecularly-targeted and immuno-oncology drugs for the treatment of cancer, and SpringWorks Therapeutics, Inc., a US based clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on developing life-changing medicines for patients with severe rare diseases and cancer, have announced the formation of MapKure, LLC, a newly created entity that is jointly owned by BeiGene and SpringWorks.

MapKure intends to develop BGB-3245, an investigational, oral, selective small molecule inhibitor of monomer and dimer forms of activating B-RAF mutations including V600 BRAF mutations, non-V600 B-RAF mutations, and RAF fusions. These mutations and fusions have been identified in a number of solid tumors to be drivers of cancer growth, including in non-small cell lung cancer, colorectal cancer, thyroid cancer, and brain tumors.

BGB-3245 was discovered by BeiGene scientists and is currently in preclinical development. Under the terms of the agreements, SpringWorks has made an equity investment into MapKure and BeiGene has contributed an exclusive royalty and milestone-bearing license to develop and commercialize BGB-3245 outside of Asia, but including rights to Japan, in exchange for a majority ownership position in MapKure.

MapKure will form a joint steering committee that will oversee clinical development and operations for BGB-3245, as well as a Board of Directors. Both the joint steering committee and the Board will include members from BeiGene, SpringWorks and MapKure's CEO. Further terms of the agreements were not disclosed.