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WuXi to build its third cell therapy manufacturing facility

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Singapore: WuXi PharmaTech, provider of R&D capability and technology platform for pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical device industries, is building construction of a new, 145,000-square-foot cGMP facility in Philadelphia for the manufacture of cell therapy products.

The facility is designed for cell therapy products that contain viral vectors such as chimeric antigen receptor T cell (CAR T cell) therapies. CAR T cells are T cells harvested from a patient's body, engineered to target specific cancers, and then reintroduced into the body.

The new facility will become WuXi's third cell therapy manufacturing facility when it becomes operational by mid-2016. It will provide single-source contract development and cGMP manufacturing capabilities to support the rapidly growing cellular therapeutic industry's unique requirements. Specifically, the new facility will provide manufacturing capability and capacity to meet the rapidly expanding demand for clinical studies and commercial supply.

"Cell therapies like CAR T cells offer important new treatment options for cancer patients, and WuXi aims to be at the forefront of this area of providing our partners with cutting-edge cGMP manufacturing capabilities and capacities," said Dr Ge Li, Chairman and CEO, WuXi PharmaTech.