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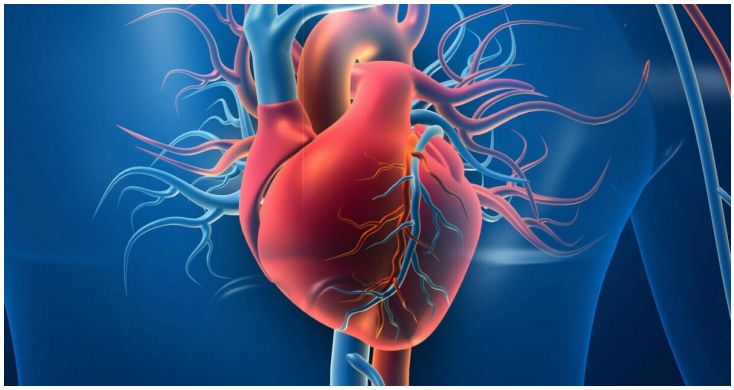
China's Mabwell and US-based Aditum Bio ink $1 B deal for siRNA cardiovascular therapies

September 19, 2025 | News

To develop 2MW7141, a novel dual-target siRNA candidate for lipid management in patients with dyslipidemia



Mabwell (Shanghai) Bioscience and US-based Aditum Bio have announced the launch of Kalexo Bio, a new company formed in conjunction with an exclusive global license agreement to develop 2MW7141, a novel dual-target siRNA candidate for lipid management in patients with dyslipidemia and for the prevention of high-risk atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) events. Aditum Bio will provide funding for Kalexo Bio, and the parties will collaborate to advance 2MW7141 into clinical development.

Kalexo Bio was founded by Aditum Bio, whose mission is to develop therapies for patients in areas of high unmet need. To speed these drugs to market, Aditum Bio fosters an incubator model, focusing on the translational phase of drug development. This model enables a nimble startup platform with a dedicated team of managers supported by Aditum's in-house team of development professionals.

In preclinical studies, 2MW7141 demonstrated potent and sustained suppression of target genes with low risk of off-target effects, underscoring its potential as a best-in-class therapy.

Under the agreement, Mabwell will grant Kalexo Bio exclusive worldwide rights to develop, manufacture, and commercialise 2MW7141. Mabwell is eligible to receive a total of up to $1 billion upfront and milestone payments, as well as tiered royalties on global sales. This includes $12 million in non-refundable upfront and near-term cash payments. Mabwell will also receive an equity stake in Kalexo Bio.