

Alector, Johnson & Johnson explore novel alzheimer's target

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Singapore: Alector and Johnson & Johnson Innovation Center in California signed a collaborative research agreement, according to which Janssen Pharmaceuticals, US, will fund research in one of Alector's targets through proof-of-concept disease models and will retain a time-limited option to negotiate a commercial agreement.

Alector is targeting key components of the pathological pathways that underlie Alzheimer's disease using state-of-the-art monoclonal antibody technology, in strategic alliance with Adimab, the industry's premier yeast display antibody company.

Alector is located at Janssen Labs @QB3 in San Francisco, US. Through a collaboration with QB3, Janssen Labs @QB3 aims to provide a capital efficient, flexible model for external companies pursuing important healthcare innovations. It features a no-strings attached approach which is a key component of the flagship Janssen Labs in San Diego.

Dr Arnon Rosenthal, president and chief executive officer, Alector, said, "As part of our strategy to engage large pharma partners early in the discovery process, we are delighted to collaborate with Johnson & Johnson Innovation on this program. It exemplifies how large pharma companies can access early stage exploratory, high risk high reward programs."

Dr Tillman Gerngross, chairman of the board of Alector, said that, "This agreement provides Alector with a lot of options while helping to reduce our burn rate; a win-win for both parties."

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