BioSpectrum the business of Bio & Health Sciences ASIA EDITION

NMT Pharma and CAO Pharma in licensing agreement for anti-cancer drug

August 26, 2015 | News | By BioSpectrum Bureau

NMT Pharma and CAO Pharma in licensing agreement for anti-cancer drug



Singapore: Singapore based start-up firm, NMT Pharmaceuticals, has acquired an exclusive worldwide license right to further develop and market an anti-cancer drug CZ-48 co-developed by CAO Pharma and NMT Pharma.

NMT Pharma and CAO Pharma will enter into agreements that would secure funding needed by CAO Pharma to continue to operate and conduct clinical trials in the US. The collaboration is subjected to, among with other requirements, satisfactory completion of due diligence and the execution of a definitive agreement.

CZ-48 is an analogue of camptothecin which is stable and resistant to inactivation while circulating in human bloodstream. This topoisomerase I inhibitor only becomes active when entering in tumor cells. Based on preclinical and previous Phase I clinical trial data, CZ-48 has very low toxicity and mild side effects. CAO Pharma and NMT Pharma have improved the formulation of CZ-48 to increase the bioavailability of the drug so as to further reduce the side effects and improve therapeutic effects. CAO Pharma intends to re-start the Phase I clinical study program with the new CZ-48 formulation within this year.

NMT Pharmaceuticals is a Singapore and spin off company from the pharmaceutical business division of NanoMaterials Technology. As a wholly-owned subsidiary company of NMT, it has a proprietary technology called High Gravity Controlled Precipitation (HGCP) Technology and other patented dispersion technology to improve the bioavailability of micro- and nano-drug particles and formulations.