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ScinoPharm, TaiGen collaborate for stem cell drug

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Singapore: Taiwan based ScinoPharm, engaged in development and manufacture of active pharmaceutical ingredients has closed a contract manufacturing deal for the clinical supply of the API of Burixafor, a new chemical entity discovered and developed by TaiGen.

The API will be manufactured in ScinoPharm's plant in Changshu, China. Dr Jo Shen, president and CEO, ScinoPharm said, "This cooperation with TaiGen is of representative significance in the domestic pharmaceutical companies' upstream and downstream cooperation and self-development of new drugs, and indicates the Taiwanese pharmaceutical industry's cumulative research and development momentum is paving the way forward." Dr Jo Shen emphasized, "ScinoPharm's Changshu Plant provides high-quality API R&D and manufacturing services through its fast, flexible, reliable competitive advantages, effectively assisting clients of new drugs in gaining entry into China, Europe, the United States, and other international markets."

According to Dr Ming-Chu Hsu, Chairman and CEO of TaiGen, "R&D is the foundation of the pharmaceutical industry. Once a drug is successfully developed, players at all levels of the value chain could reap the benefit. Burixafor is a 100 percent in-house developed product that can be used in the treatment of various intractable diseases. The cooperation between TaiGen and ScinoPharm will not only be a win-win for both sides, but will also provide high-quality novel drug for patients from around the world."

Burixafor is a novel stem cell mobilizer that can efficiently mobilize bone marrow stem cells and tissue precursor cells to the peripheral blood. It can be used in hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, chemotherapy sensitization and other ischemic

diseases. The results of the ongoing Phase II clinical trial in the United States are very impressive. The drug has received a Clinical Trial Application from China's FDA for the initiation of a Phase II clinical trial in chemotherapy sensitization under the 1.1 category. According to the pharmaceutical consultancy company JSB, with only stem cell transplant and chemotherapy sensitizer as the indicator, Burixafor's annual sales are estimated at USD1.1 billion.