

## **Prescient signs agreement with Thermo Fisher Scientific to accelerate OmniCAR platform development**

### **Key points**

- **Research program aims to advance development of next-generation cellular therapies**
- **New platform to enable non-viral methods of transduction and automated, closed manufacturing solutions**
- **Prescient to leverage Thermo Fisher's expertise in cell and gene therapy to create a scalable cell therapy platform**

**MELBOURNE Australia, 18 August 2022** – Prescient Therapeutics ("Prescient"; ASX: PTX), a clinical stage oncology company developing personalised therapies to treat cancer, announced today that it has signed an agreement with Thermo Fisher Scientific designed to accelerate development and commercialization of a highly scalable version of Prescient's OmniCAR cell therapy platform. The agreement's development plan will evaluate the potential of utilizing automated, closed cell therapy solutions to develop a novel process of manufacturing cell therapies on the OmniCAR platform using non-viral methods. The work program aims to develop the next generation OmniCAR cells that can be produced with greater efficiency, lower costs and unmatched reproducibility.

All CAR-T therapies approved by the FDA so far, and most CAR-T therapies in development, employ viral vectors to insert genetic material into immune cells to create chimeric antigen receptors (CARs)-expressing immune cells. Viral vectors are expensive, relatively inefficient and very time consuming to develop, often representing a key bottleneck and major cost contributor to CAR-T manufacturing. Furthermore, viral transduction processes are highly complex manual processes which are challenging for tech transfer, labour intensive and prone to operator variations, therefore producing highly variable and unpredictable results.

The work plan under this agreement will focus on creating OmniCAR cells with Thermo Fisher's portfolio of proprietary equipment and specialised cell and gene therapy manufacturing expertise. A key Prescient objective is to create a 2<sup>nd</sup> generation of the OmniCAR platform by being able to manufacture OmniCAR cells with greater efficiency and lower costs that are suitable for tech transfer to GMP-licensed contract development and manufacturing organizations (CDMO)s globally. This is aligned with Prescient's vision of decentralised manufacturing, which is best suited for multi-centre treatments, both during development and eventually for commercial roll-out.



The research is expected to take approximately 12 months to complete. Prescient will receive full ownership of outcomes from the collaboration and will not be required to make any cash contribution to this substantial project.

Prescient believes that the agreement provides an opportunity for future development of other gene edits for incorporation into further-enhanced OmniCAR cell therapies that will address exhaustion and immune suppression.

**Prescient Managing Director and CEO Steven Yatomi-Clarke** said, "Prescient is delighted to enter this agreement with Thermo Fisher, a world-leader in cell and gene technologies, to accelerate the development of our OmniCAR platform."

"Whilst Prescient elected to develop its first internal OmniCAR programs using the validated approach of lentiviral transduction, we always have an eye on the future for any emerging advantages that can be incorporated into our programs whilst mitigating development risk. We are optimistic that this agreement with Thermo Fisher will accelerate the development of the OmniCAR platform to the point where one or more of Prescient's internal OmniCAR programs can incorporate the advancements this agreement produces."

"Importantly, the agreement should result in an improved product and process that can be decentralised and therefore scaled with high efficiency and reproducibility. Such innovation is crucial in the clinical and eventual commercial roll out of OmniCAR products; and will facilitate third-party development of OmniCAR and the Company's ultimate vision of a patient centric treatment ecosystem."

- Ends -

### **[Join an investor briefing](#)**

Join Managing Director and CEO Steven Yatomi-Clarke for an investor briefing on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August at 12pm (AEST). [Register for the session here](#).

To stay updated with the latest company news and announcements, [please update your details](#) on our investor centre.

### **[About Prescient Therapeutics Limited \(Prescient\)](#)**

Prescient Therapeutics is a clinical stage oncology company developing personalised medicine approaches to cancer, including targeted and cellular therapies.



## Cell Therapies

**OmniCAR:** is a universal immune receptor platform enabling controllable T-cell activity and multi- antigen targeting with a single cell product. OmniCAR's modular CAR system decouples antigen recognition from the T-cell signalling domain. It is the first universal immune receptor allowing post- translational covalent loading of binders to T-cells. OmniCAR is based on technology licensed from Penn; the SpyTag/SpyCatcher binding system licensed from Oxford University; and other assets.

The targeting ligand can be administered separately to CAR-T cells, creating on-demand T-cell activity post infusion and enables the CAR-T to be directed to an array of different tumour antigens. OmniCAR provides a method for single-vector, single cell product targeting of multiple antigens simultaneous or sequentially, whilst allowing continual re-arming to generate, regulate and diversify a sustained T-cell response over time.

Prescient is developing OmniCAR programs for next-generation CAR-T therapies for Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML); Her2+ solid tumours, including breast, ovarian and gastric cancers; and glioblastoma multiforme (GBM).

**CellPryme-M:** Prescient's novel, ready-for-the-clinic, CellPryme-M technology enhances adoptive cell therapy performance by shifting T and NK cells towards a central memory phenotype, improving persistence, and increasing the ability to find and penetrate tumours. CellPryme-M is a 24-hour, non-disruptive process during cell manufacturing. Cell therapies that could benefit from additional productivity in manufacturing or increased potency and durability in-vivo, would be good candidates for CellPryme-M.

## Targeted Therapies

**PTX-100** is a first in class compound with the ability to block an important cancer growth enzyme known as geranylgeranyl transferase-1 (GGT-1). It disrupts oncogenic Ras pathways by inhibiting the activation of Rho, Rac and Ral circuits in cancer cells, leading to apoptosis (death) of cancer cells. PTX- 100 is believed to be the only GGT-1 inhibitor in the world in clinical development. PTX-100 demonstrated safety and early clinical activity in a previous Phase 1 study and recent PK/PD basket study of hematological and solid malignancies. PTX-100 is now in a Phase 1b expansion cohort study in T cell lymphomas, where it has shown encouraging efficacy signals and safety.

**PTX-200** is a novel PH domain inhibitor that inhibits an important tumour survival pathway known as Akt, which plays a key role in the development of many cancers, including breast and ovarian cancer, as well as leukemia. Unlike other drug candidates that target Akt inhibition, PTX-200 has a novel mechanism of action that specifically inhibits Akt without non-specific kinase inhibition effects. This highly promising compound is currently in a Phase 1b/2 trial in relapsed and refractory AML, where it has resulted in 4 complete remissions so far. PTX-200 previously generated encouraging Phase 2a data in HER2-negative breast cancer and Phase 1b in recurrent or persistent platinum resistant ovarian cancer.

The Board of Prescient Therapeutics Limited has approved the release of this announcement.

Find out more at [www.ptxtherapeutics.com](http://www.ptxtherapeutics.com) or connect with us via Twitter [@PTX\\_AUS](https://twitter.com/PTX_AUS) and [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ptxtherapeutics).

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## Supplemental COVID-19 Risk Factors

Please see our website : [Supplemental COVID-19 Risk Factors](#)