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press release

Novo Nordisk and Flagship Pioneering announce a strategic collaboration to create a portfolio of transformational medicines

Pioneering Medicines and Novo Nordisk Bio Innovation Hub will leverage Flagship Pioneering's bioplatfrom companies to create a portfolio of research programmes within cardiometabolic and rare diseases

Bagsværd, Denmark and Cambridge, MA, 10 May 2022 – Flagship Pioneering and Novo Nordisk A/S today announced a collaboration to create a portfolio of novel research programmes to develop transformational medicines.

The companies will explore opportunities to apply Flagship's innovative bioplatfroms - an ecosystem that currently comprises 41 companies - to scientific challenges in disease areas within cardiometabolic and rare diseases and initiate research programmes based on these.

This is a novel approach to collaboration, between companies providing extensive access to innovation, leveraging the technology platfroms of multiple biotech companies to create a portfolio of medicines across several disease areas.

"We are excited about this new agreement which will give Novo Nordisk access to Flagships' large and diverse portfolio of companies, representing a wide variety of novel cutting-edge technologies and therapeutic modalities," said Marcus Schindler, PhD, professor, executive vice president and chief scientific officer of Novo Nordisk. "This is a new and innovative way of collaborating, which combines the strength of Flagship Pioneering's bioplatfroms with Novo Nordisk's cardiometabolic and rare disease expertise."

Novo Nordisk will provide funding for initiated research programmes and have an exclusive option to license each program. The ambition is to initiate three to five research programs within the first three years of the collaboration.

“We enter into this collaboration with Novo Nordisk with a shared vision of creating transformational medicines in disease areas where there continue to be significant needs,” said Paul Biondi, president, Pioneering Medicines and executive partner, Flagship Pioneering. “This strategic partnership demonstrates the unique advantages of our Pioneering Medicines model in which we bring together complementary capabilities and expertise from multiple companies to deliver life-changing medicines to patients.”

Through the collaboration, Flagship’s Pioneering Medicines and the Novo Nordisk Bio Innovation Hub will jointly select the most promising product concepts and conduct research programmes.

Pioneering Medicines is a strategic initiative within Flagship Pioneering that is dedicated to conceiving and developing a broad portfolio of life-changing treatments by leveraging and expanding the use of Flagship’s innovations.

The Novo Nordisk Bio Innovation Hub is a cross-functional R&D team within Novo Nordisk based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, with an ambition to establish and drive an externally anchored portfolio of co-created breakthrough therapeutic concepts and technologies and delivery projects. The Bio Innovation Hub, together with the recently acquired Dicerna Pharmaceuticals, Inc. in Lexington, Massachusetts, are two of four transformational research units (TRUs) in the Novo Nordisk R&D organisation.

About Flagship Pioneering

Flagship Pioneering conceives, creates, resources, and develops first-in-category bioplatfrom companies to transform human health and sustainability. Since its launch in 2000, the firm has, through its Flagship Labs unit, applied its unique hypothesis-driven innovation process to originate and foster more than 100 scientific ventures, resulting in more than \$100 billion in aggregate value. To date, Flagship has deployed over \$2.9 billion in capital toward the founding and growth of its pioneering companies alongside more than \$19 billion of follow-on investments from other institutions. The current Flagship ecosystem comprises 41 transformative companies, including Axcella Therapeutics (Nasdaq: [AXLA](#)), Codiak Biosciences (Nasdaq: [CDAK](#)) Denali Therapeutics (Nasdaq: [DNLI](#)), Evelo Biosciences (Nasdaq: [EVLO](#)), Foghorn Therapeutics (Nasdaq: [FHTX](#)), Indigo Ag, Moderna (Nasdaq: [MRNA](#)), Omega Therapeutics (Nasdaq: [OMGA](#)), Rubius Therapeutics (Nasdaq: [RUBY](#)), Sana Biotechnology (Nasdaq: [SANA](#)), Seres Therapeutics (Nasdaq: [MCRB](#)), and Sigilon Therapeutics (Nasdaq: [SGTX](#)).

About Novo Nordisk

Novo Nordisk is a leading global healthcare company, founded in 1923 and headquartered in Denmark. Our purpose is to drive change to defeat diabetes and other serious chronic diseases such as obesity and rare blood and endocrine disorders. We do so by pioneering scientific breakthroughs, expanding access to our medicines, and working to prevent and ultimately cure disease. Novo Nordisk employs about 49,300 people in 80 countries and markets its products in around 170 countries. For more information, visit novonordisk.com, [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#).

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