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Vincere Biosciences Receives Funding from the National Institutes of Health to Develop USP30 Inhibitors

Cambridge, MA, USA - April 2020: <u>Vincere Biosciences, Inc</u> has received a Phase I Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) to accelerate the development of small molecule inhibitors of the enzyme USP30. Genetic mutations in the mitophagy pathway, where USP30 has its effect, cause early onset Parkinson's disease, and Vincere's computational models of sporadic Parkinson's patient samples suggests this pathway is also impacted in non-genetic forms of the disease.

This 12-month project is led by Chief Executive Officer Spring Behrouz, Ph.D., an expert working on Parkinson's disease biology for the past 15 years. **"Given the lack of disease-modifying therapeutics for Parkinson's disease, we are excited to push these molecules closer to the clinic and in the hands of patients."**, says Dr. Behrouz.

Commenting on the technology that allows for the target identification of USP30, Vincere co-founder and COO Andy Lee says, "This project is another exciting example of how the NeuroInitiative platform can produce actionable therapeutic targets. We look forward to validating these promising compounds for Parkinson's disease."

Vincere board member and investor Jim Liang says, "Vincere has been a trailblazer in exploring USP30 molecules to develop a drug that can cure Parkinson's Disease. We are honored and pleased to receive this third party affirmation of the company's hypothesis from such a well-regarded institution as the NIH."

About Vincere Biosciences Inc: Vincere Biosciences was founded in 2018 and develops therapeutics for neurodegenerative disease empowered by a unique suite of computational tools coupled with traditional biology and drug discovery expertise. Vincere is Latin for "To win," a constant reminder of our mission to win the fight against disease. <u>http://www.vincerebio.com</u>

About The National Institutes of Health Small Business Programs: National Institutes of Health (NIH) small business program is a congressionally-mandated set-aside program to encourage research and development leading to commercialization. The program, as established by law, is intended to stimulate a partnership of ideas and technologies in the private sector and strengthen the role of small business in meeting Federal research or research and development (R/R&D) needs.

The NINDS SBIR/STTR program funds small business concerns to conduct innovative neuroscience research and/or development that has both the potential for commercialization and public benefit. NINDS is increasingly tracking the progress of its funded small business concerns and the products they develop. Funding priority will be given to those small business concerns that show not only their ability to develop products but their growth as a small business concern towards independence from the SBIR/STTR program.

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