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Vincere Biosciences Secures \$700,000 NIH Grant to Advance Parkinson's Disease Research



Cambridge, MA, USA - September 25, 2023: Vincere Biosciences, Inc., a biotech focused on neurodegenerative disease therapeutics, has been awarded a Phase I Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant totaling \$700,000, by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS). The grant will support research aimed at evaluating the pharmacokinetics and efficacy of Vincere Biosciences' mitophagy enhancing USP30 inhibitor molecule in models relevant to Parkinson's disease.

Parkinson's disease affects over one million Americans and imposes an annual financial burden exceeding \$52 billion. Current treatments focus primarily on symptomatic relief through dopamine replacement therapy, which can lose efficacy over time and lead to severe motor and non-motor complications. Vincere Biosciences has pioneered small molecules designed to enhance the removal of damaged mitochondria, holding the potential to become the first therapy capable of slowing or halting disease progression.

Dr. Bahareh Spring Behrouz, PhD, CEO of Vincere Biosciences, and primary investigator on this project, expressed gratitude, stating "We are thankful to the expert reviewers at NINDS for supporting our efforts to test our small molecules in models of Parkinson's disease."

This two-year research project will be conducted in collaboration with **Dr. Michael Henderson, PhD**, of Van Andel Institute, utilizing their α -synuclein pre-formed fibril (PFF) model of Parkinson's disease. **Dr. Henderson**, who is an assistant professor and co-primary investigator on this project remarked, "I'm thrilled to embark on this collaborative research journey with Vincere Biosciences as we work together to unlock new possibilities in the fight against Parkinson's disease."

About Vincere Biosciences, Inc.: Vincere Biosciences 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. <http://www.vincerebio.com>

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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