



Tetragenetics Receives Phase II Grand Challenges Explorations Funding

Cambridge, Massachusetts, April 1, 2013. Tetragenetics announced today that it has received Phase II funding through Grand Challenges Explorations, an initiative created by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation that enables individuals worldwide to test bold ideas to address persistent health and development challenges. Dr. Ted Clark will continue to pursue an innovative global health research project, titled “A Highly Potent Delivery System for Malaria Vaccine Antigens”.

“This funding will enable the Company to continue to advance our novel transmission blocking vaccine against malaria, addressing a current unmet medical need, said Dr. Ted Clark, CSO and founder of Tetragenetics. “The company is working to develop a safe and effective vaccine to prevent malaria, a major health affliction that poses a risk to roughly half the world’s population.”

In 2009, Tetragenetics was awarded a Phase I grant to develop a transmission blocking vaccine program. Grand Challenges Explorations (GCE) Phase I recognizes individuals worldwide who are taking innovative approaches to some of the world’s most difficult global health and development challenges. GCE invests in the early stages of ideas that have real potential to solve the problems people in the developing world face every day. Phase II recognizes those ideas that have made significant progress toward implementation. Dr. Clark’s project is one of the Phase II Grand Challenges Explorations grants that were announced on November 1st, 2012.

“Investments in innovative global health research are already paying off,” said Chris Wilson, director of Global Health Discovery and Translational Sciences at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. “We’re excited that we consistently receive so many surprising ideas from around the world and that we’re able to provide a second round of funding for some of the most unconventional among them.”

Dr. Clark explained, “Our technology allows us to fuse candidate vaccine antigens from malaria to self-assembling proteins from the ciliated protozoan, *Tetrahymena*, to create nanometer-sized particles (G-SOMES™) that have the potential to be highly immunogenic in humans and other vertebrate hosts. Phase II funding through the GCE program is being used to test conventional systems, such as bacteria and mammalian tissue culture cells, as platforms for the production of these particle-based vaccines with the eventual goal of blocking malaria transmission in areas of the world where the disease is endemic.”

About Grand Challenges Explorations

Grand Challenges Explorations is a US\$100 million initiative funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Launched in 2008, over 700 people in 45 countries have received Grand Challenges Explorations grants. The grant program is open to anyone from any discipline and from any organization. The initiative uses an agile, accelerated grant-making process with short two-page online applications and no preliminary data required. Initial grants of US\$100,000 are awarded two times a year. Successful projects have the opportunity to receive a follow-on grant of up to US\$1 million.

About Tetragenetics. A 2012 Gates Foundation Phase II recipient, Tetragenetics has developed a proprietary suite of platform technologies: TetraExpress™, G-SOME™, and SionX™, which enable the rapid production of proteins that are difficult or impossible to express in conventional systems. The company’s proprietary technology is being utilized to develop antigens for use as vaccines and as immunogens for antibody discovery. For more information, please visit: www.tetragenetics.com

Company contact:

John Reilly
V.P. Business Development
jreilly@tetragenetics.com
617-229-5224

Media contact:

Suzanne Gibbons-Neff
SGN Public Relations & Marketing
suzanne@sgnpr.com
203-858-1325