



Case Study

Unleash Immuno Oncolytics & Precision Virologics

Demonstrates the impact of BioGenerator's pre-investment programs and their utility in building new companies and advancing them to venture capital financing. Highlights St. Louis' growing reputation as a destination for startup companies to relocate and subsequently prosper.

Introduction

Unleash Immuno Oncolytics was founded on the basis of collaborations between David Curiel of Washington University and Osvaldo Podhajcer of Instituto Leloir in Argentina. The company is developing adenovirus technology for cancer therapy. A sibling company, Precision Virologics, is pursuing related virus technology for vaccine applications.

Pre-Company Support

BioGenerator supported initial actions of both Unleash and Precision through its Grants, Fundamentals, and Grants-2-Business SBIR/STTR programs. BioGenerator Grants enabled licensing and corporate activities, intellectual property strategy, and independent 3rd party evaluation. BioGenerator director Harry Arader was instrumental in development of corporate strategy, grant applications, and other early company activities.

Seed Financing and Strategic Investment

Having made significant progress in the pre-investment phase including the hiring of CEO Daniel Katzman, BioGenerator led an initial seed financing for Unleash in 2016. BioGenerator Vice President Charlie Bolten serves on the company's Board of Directors. Unleash Immuno Oncolytics is an owner of Precision Virologics, which received a \$500K investment from Oncolys BioPharma in 2017.

"The initiative and tenacity of BioGenerator serve not only to bring companies here, but also to amplify the region's reputation as a world-class research hub."

**Daniel Katzman, Co-Founder and CEO
Unleash Immuno Oncolytics & Precision Virologics**

"The input from the (SBIR/STTR) mock panel was extremely valuable and allowed us to advance our planning in a way that was beneficial. This is a useful aid that we will certainly use again."

**David Curiel, MD, PhD, Co-Founder & CSO
Unleash Immuno Oncolytics & Precision Virologics
Professor, Washington University in St. Louis**

OBJECTIVES

- Enable commercialization of world class Washington University research
- Advance potential new treatments for cancer and infectious diseases
- Enable advancement of new company

SOLUTION

- De-risk at pre-company stage via Grants and Fundamentals programs
- Aid the move of unfunded company and management team from Argentina to St. Louis' Cortex Innovation Community
- Strengthen applications for non-dilutive grants through BioGenerator Grants-2-Business program
- Lead seed funding of Unleash Immuno Oncolytics - which in turn launched Precision Virologics

RESULTS TO DATE

- Unleash closed an initial Seed round of financing and secured a strategic partnership
- Precision secured \$500K in strategic investment from Oncolys BioPharma
- Unleash and Precision are funded new companies advancing potential new therapies for cancer and infectious diseases