

Biotechnology & Health:

Cancer and Immunotherapy

PDS Biotechnology announced a significant benchmark in its VERSATILE-002 trial for head and neck cancer. A sub-analysis of a patient cohort with low PD-L1 expression showed a median overall survival (mOS) of 29.5 months for those treated with the combination of PDS0101 (Versamune® HPV) and Keytruda®. This is a substantial improvement over the mOS of 10.8 months for Keytruda® alone and 12.3 months for Keytruda® plus chemotherapy in the same patient group, potentially offering a well-tolerated treatment option without the need for chemotherapy.

AusperBio Therapeutics completed patient enrollment in two Phase II clinical trials for AHB-137, a targeted oligonucleotide therapy for chronic hepatitis B (CHB). The company is aiming to achieve a "functional cure" for the disease and is preparing for a pivotal Phase III study.

Elicio Therapeutics announced inducement stock options for new employees, highlighting its focus on developing off-the-shelf immunotherapies for high-prevalence cancers like pancreatic and colorectal cancers. Its lead program, ELI-002, targets common KRAS mutations.

AllRock Bio secured \$50 million in Series A funding to advance its lead molecule for cancer treatment.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Health and Biotech

Eli Lilly is offering free access to some of its proprietary AI models to biotech companies

through a new platform called Lilly TuneLab. This initiative is designed to help Lilly train its models with new data and accelerate drug discovery across the industry.

Formation Bio, an AI-native pharmaceutical company, expanded its leadership team with executives from major pharma companies to accelerate its AI-driven drug development model.

The **CPHI Frankfurt Pharma Awards 2025** finalists were announced, with several entries highlighting the integration of AI in various aspects of drug development, from formulation to supply chain management.

A new venture capital firm was launched by biotech veteran Robert Langer and his son, with the aim of backing "visionary founders" at the intersection of technology and biology.

Other Notable Developments

The global biotechnology market is projected to grow significantly, with a report by Precedence Research estimating it will reach a valuation of \$5.71 trillion by 2034. The growth is driven by the rising prevalence of chronic diseases, a strong preference for biologics, and advances in personalized and regenerative medicine.

Stryker and **Siemens Healthineers** are partnering to develop a stroke-treating robot.

Biogen is acquiring **Alcyone** for \$85 million to gain access to drug delivery technology.

Avant Technologies is entering the longevity biotechnology sector through a joint venture with Austrianova to create Klothonova, Inc., which will focus on anti-aging therapeutics using cell-based therapies.



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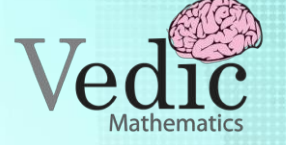
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The FDA issued warning letters to **Novo Nordisk**, **Eli Lilly**, and **Hims** over misleading advertising practices for GLP-1 therapies.

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MCQS

1. What was the median overall survival (mOS) for patients with low PD-L1 expression treated with PDS0101 and Keytruda® in the PDS Biotechnology trial?

- a) 10.8 months
- b) 12.3 months
- c) 29.5 months
- d) 5.71 months

Answer: c) 29.5 months

The provided text states that a sub-analysis of the VERSATILE-002 trial showed a median overall survival (mOS) of 29.5 months for the patient cohort treated with the combination of PDS0101 (Versamune® HPV) and Keytruda®. This was a significant improvement compared to Keytruda® alone and Keytruda® with chemotherapy.

2. Which company is developing an immunotherapy targeting common KRAS mutations for high-prevalence cancers like pancreatic and colorectal cancers?

- a) PDS Biotechnology
- b) AusperBio Therapeutics
- c) Elicio Therapeutics
- d) AllRock Bio

Answer: c) Elicio Therapeutics

The text mentions that Elicio Therapeutics is focusing on developing immunotherapies for high-prevalence cancers and that its lead program, ELI-002, targets common KRAS mutations, which are often found in pancreatic and colorectal cancers.

3. What is the name of the new platform through which Eli Lilly is offering free access to some of its proprietary AI models?

- a) Lilly AI Connect
- b) Lilly TuneLab





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- c) Lilly Drug Discovery
d) Lilly BioHub

Answer: b) Lilly TuneLab

The text states that Eli Lilly is offering free access to some of its proprietary AI models to other biotech companies through a new platform called Lilly TuneLab. The goal of this initiative is to help accelerate drug discovery and train Lilly's models with new data.

4. A new venture capital firm was launched to back "visionary founders" at the intersection of technology and biology. Who is one of the founders of this firm?

- a) The CEO of Formation Bio
b) A veteran from Siemens Healthineers
c) Robert Langer
d) A venture capitalist from AllRock Bio

Answer: c) Robert Langer

The provided text notes that a new venture capital firm was launched by biotech veteran Robert Langer and his son, with the objective of backing founders at the intersection of technology and biology.

5. According to a report by Precedence Research, what is the projected valuation of the global biotechnology market by 2034?

- a) \$85 million
b) \$50 million
c) \$1.2 billion
d) \$5.71 trillion

Answer: d) \$5.71 trillion

The text explicitly states that a report by Precedence Research estimates the global biotechnology market will reach a valuation of \$5.71 trillion by 2034.

6. What is Biogen's reason for acquiring Alcyone?

- a) To form a joint venture in longevity biotechnology
b) To access new drug delivery technology
c) To develop a stroke-treating robot
d) To expand its leadership team

Answer: b) To access new drug delivery technology

The text mentions that Biogen is acquiring Alcyone for \$85 million to gain access to drug delivery technology. This technology is a key asset that Biogen aims to integrate into its operations.

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