

2000-2002

Discovery of C-Kit & Aurora Kinase inhibitors.

Collaboration between two leading faculty members Professor Daniel Von Hoff leading clinician and Professor Laurance Hurley a leading medicinal chemist at the Arizona Cancer Center in their labs where Drs. David Bearss and Hari Vankayalapati led to the discovery of C-Kit and Aurora Kinase inhibitors.

2003-2006

Montigen Pharmaceuticals is launched

Both David and Hari along with other business entrepreneur together in-licensed their own C-Kit and Aurora Kinase inhibitor patents from the Arizona Cancer Center into their startup Montigen Pharmaceuticals, along with their CLIMBTM technology made them to establish this company in Salt Lake City, Utah.

2006-2010

Supergen, Inc. acquires Montigen for \$40MM

With their success in Montigen Pharmaceuticals having MP-470/Amuvatinib into FIH trials and a couple of other pipeline programs a bay area company Supergen Inc. acquired Montigen for \$40M. This was their first successful transaction in their pharma/biotech field. During the Supergen Inc. tenure, both Hari and David successfully filed 10+ patents and 6 investigational agents of which three agents were successfully taken into FIH clinical trials.

2011-2012



David & Hari establish the therapeutics division at the Huntsman Cancer Institute

David and Hari in their further ventures moved to academia and established the therapeutics division at the Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah. In collaboration with clinicians and research investigators they secured several federal grants and they discovered LSD1 inhibitor/HCI-2577 and AXL Kinase Inhibitor/HCI-() and spun out two pharmaceutical companies. This opened up a new venture for both Hari and David.

2013-2016



Sumitomo Dainippon Pharma acquires Tolero Pharmaceuticals

David Bearss successfully in-licensed his discovery of AXL Kinase inhibitor that led to the startup Tolero Pharmaceuticals where David built additional pipeline and also in-licensed Alvocidib from Sanofi Aventis. Several of these programs along with David and his team into Phase II clinical trials and with this expanded pipeline a Japanese firm Sumitomo Dainippon Pharma acquired Tolero Pharmaceuticals for \$780M which is the largest pharma/biotech deal in the history of Utah. Since then, David was on board with Sumitomo as CEO prior to his transition back to academia in 2020.

2012-2017



Hari identifies CDK7 inhibitor patent

Hari further continued his academic career supporting TEGn (a City of Hope Institute) on drug discovery where he identified CDK7 inhibitor patent prior to his rejoining to the HCI.

2019-2022



Hari & David collaborate at HCI & PIVOT

Hari served as an Associate Professor at HCI and established translational research by working on small molecule immune therapeutics collaborating with several departments at the University of Utah, including PIVOT. During the PIVOT collaboration, Hari and David combined and worked on several of these drug discovery programs and further ventured a new pharma company, Biolexis Therapeutics. Since Q2 2022 Hari has been serving as CSO of Biolexis Therapeutics.

2020 - Now



U of U PIVOTs & Xenter, Inc.

David while supporting U of U PIVOTs accelerator therapeutics division, he is also serving as a board member of Xenter Inc., David and Hari as their third venture led to the startup of Biolexis Therapeutics.

2022 - Now



David serves as CEO of Halia Therapeutics

David is also serving as CEO of Halia Therapeutics, where he built a team with three potential pipeline programs targeting inflammasomes and neurodegenerative diseases.

biolexis

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