



AMURA

Press Release

Amura receives 'Notice of Allowance' from the US examiner for a key β -lactamase inhibitor patent thereby initiating the granting procedure.

Cambridge, U.K. – 17th May 2007

Amura receives 'Notice of Allowance' from the US examiner for a key β -lactamase inhibitor patent thereby initiating the granting procedure. This provides Amura with patent protection for WO02032423 to approximately 2020.

Amura's β -lactamase anti-bacterial oxapenem inhibitors were originally discovered during the early 1990's. Amura has established a comprehensive pre-clinical package for this programme and continued research discovered a selection of compounds (the 'zwitterions') that exhibited unexpected synergies and which lead to non-obvious advantageous properties.

Beta-lactamases are enzymes produced by some bacteria that are responsible for their resistance to beta-lactam antibiotics such as penicillins, cephalosporins, cephamycins and carbapenems. The production of β -lactamases is one of the major mechanisms by which bacteria become resistant to antibiotic treatment. Inhibitors of β -lactamases prevent the enzyme-catalysed deactivation of antibiotics thereby retaining their antibacterial properties and hence their therapeutic effect.

Amura is actively seeking out-licensing partners for its β -lactamase programme for clinical development.

Additional information about Amura is available at the company website: <http://www.amura.co.uk/>

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