



CANCER PREVENTION & RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

Award ID:
CP130058

Project Title:
Developing Two Clinical Proof of Concept Drugs that Inhibit a Novel
Cancer Cell Target

Award Mechanism:
Company Formation

Principal Investigator:
Northrup, Jonathan

Entity:
Beta Cat Pharmaceuticals, LLC

Lay Summary:

Beta Cat Pharmaceuticals specializes in developing novel cancer drugs that attack molecular targets never before addressed clinically. Our first drug, BC2059, inhibits the beta catenin pathway and represents a major breakthrough. Many cancers have abnormal activation of this pathway but despite much industry effort, no drugs have been developed previously that address it. Beta Cat has succeeded by attacking a novel target in the pathway. BC2059 has very low toxicity but is highly effective at killing tumor cells. We first will test the drug in colorectal carcinoma and in myelodysplastic syndrome, an orphan drug indication. We also have a promising second generation program that we hope to move from intravenous to oral administration and further enhance the pharmacokinetics of attacking the target, broadening the potential applications for our therapies. In addition, we will continue to work to develop sustained release formulations for our lead molecule for patient convenience. We plan to locate in Texas to develop our innovative drug, our second generation compounds, as well as add and discover drugs targeting additional pathways. In addition to our internal research programs, we also plan to collaborate with Texas academic centers to identify compounds that broaden and extend our pipeline, in order to develop into a pharmaceutical company that could have a large economic impact in Texas. Beta Cat seeks to transition from a virtual to a "bricks and mortar" company.