



NEWS RELEASE

CRINETICS PHARMACEUTICALS AWARDED TWO SBIR GRANTS TO DEVELOP NEW THERAPEUTICS FOR CONGENITAL HYPERINSULINISM AND CUSHING'S DISEASE

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Crinetics Pharmaceuticals Awarded Two SBIR Grants to Develop New Therapeutics for Congenital Hyperinsulinism and Cushing's Disease

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| In **Press Releases**

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SAN DIEGO – September 6, 2017 – Crinetics Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a rare disease therapeutics company focused on endocrine disorders and endocrine-related cancers, announced today that it was awarded two new grants from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) that could total \$2.4 million. Both are Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grants and include a Fast Track grant for up to \$2.1 million and a Phase I grant of \$0.3 million, which will be used for the development of Crinetics' nonpeptide, oral somatostatin agonists for congenital hyperinsulinemia, and the discovery of novel small molecule drugs for Cushing's disease, respectively.

"We are delighted with the NIH's continuing support of our programs to develop new drugs for patients with rare endocrine disorders," said Stephen Betz, Ph. D., Founder and Vice President of Biology of Crinetics. "These awards

will enable us to advance our efforts in both hyperinsulinemia and Cushing's disease, expanding our pipeline to include these diseases with significant unmet medical needs, and bring these treatments to the patients who need them."

Presently, there are no medical therapies that were specifically developed to treat the life-threatening chronic hypoglycemia precipitated by congenital hyperinsulinism (CHI). The current options for patients are limited to drugs developed for other purposes in the hope that they might help. Despite their poor profiles, these drugs are prescribed because the next line of treatment is typically a partial or full pancreatectomy. Even when successful, patients who undergo the surgery often become diabetic and must actively manage glucose with multiple daily insulin injections for the rest of their lives.

Similarly, first line treatments for Cushing's disease are surgical and involve removal of either the ACTH-secreting tumor in the pituitary or the **adrenal glands** themselves. As this is often unsuccessful, contraindicated or delayed, medical therapy for these patients becomes necessary. Current treatment options include inhibitors of steroid synthesis enzymes that can prevent the production of cortisol and improve symptoms, but these treatments also induce a host of unwanted side effects due to the accumulation of other steroid products.

ABOUT CONGENITAL HYPERINSULINISM (CHI)

Hyperinsulinemic hypoglycemia (HH) is one of the most frequent causes of persistent hypoglycemia in infants and can result in seizures, developmental delays, learning disabilities, and even death. The most severe form of HH is inherited and referred to as CHI. CHI largely results from mutations in key genes in the insulin secretion pathway in the islets of Langerhans in the pancreas.

ABOUT CUSHING'S DISEASE

Clinical signs of Cushing's syndrome include growth of fat pads (collarbone, back of neck, face and trunk), excessive sweating, dilation of capillaries, thinning of the skin, muscle weakness, hirsutism, depression/anxiety, hypertension, osteoporosis, insulin resistance, hyperglycemia, heart disease, and a range of other metabolic disturbances resulting in high morbidity. If inadequately controlled in its severe forms, Cushing's syndrome is associated with high mortality. The most common form of Cushing's syndrome is Cushing's disease which is caused by microadenomas of pituitary corticotropic cells that secrete excess adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH).

ABOUT THE NIDDK

The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) conducts and supports research on diabetes and other endocrine and metabolic diseases; digestive diseases, nutrition, and obesity; and kidney, urologic, and hematologic diseases. Spanning the full spectrum of medicine and afflicting people of all ages and ethnic groups, these diseases encompass some of the most common, severe, and disabling conditions affecting Americans. For more information about the NIDDK and its programs, visit www.niddk.nih.gov.

ABOUT CRINETICS
PHARMACEUTICALS

Crinetics Pharmaceuticals discovers and develops novel therapeutics targeting peptide hormone receptors for the treatment of rare endocrine disorders and endocrine-related cancers. Crinetics was founded by a team of scientists with a proven track record of endocrine drug discovery and development to create important new therapeutic options for endocrinologists and their patients. The company is backed by top life sciences investors, 5AM Ventures, Versant Ventures, and Vivo Capital and is headquartered in San Diego.