

# People

## Appointments

### **Bernadette L. Alford joins Oxxon Therapeutics as VP of Regulatory Affairs**

The immunotherapeutics company Oxxon Therapeutics (<http://www.oxxontherapeutics.com>) has recently revealed the appointment of Bernadette L. Alford as the new VP of Regulatory Affairs, in Boston, MA, USA. Deirdre Gillespie, C.E.O. and President of Oxxon Therapeutics, commented that 'Dr Alford's appointment is key to us as we continue to strengthen our management team and enhance our abilities to take products through clinical development to commercialization'. Gillespie continues 'She is highly experienced in this arena particularly in our primary focus area: biologicals for infectious diseases and cancer'.

Alford has had a particularly extensive career in the field of regulatory affairs, spanning over 25 years. She has worked in various pharmaceutical companies including Biopure, Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Repligen and Genome Therapeutics. Most recently, she held the position Executive VP of Development, Regulatory and Clinical Affairs at V.I. Technologies.

Oxxon Therapeutics was founded in 1999 as a result of a spin out from the University of Oxford, UK. The company is currently building up a portfolio specializing in immunotherapeutics for infectious diseases and cancer. One of its more recently successful products for the treatment of hepatitis B and melanoma is now in Phase II clinical trials.

### **New Executive VP, Barbara H. Deptula, appointed at Shire Pharmaceuticals**

Barbara H. Deptula has been appointed to the novel position of Executive VP of Business Development at Shire Pharmaceuticals, which will be based at the newly built headquarters in Wayne, PA, USA. The Chief Executive of Shire, Matthew Emmens, said that 'Barbara's knowledge, creativity and experience are a great match for our team as we continue implementing our strategy to search and develop new products that complement our pipeline'.

Deptula, a registered pharmacist, has experienced several different roles during her career in commercial and business development. She will be leaving her most recent position as President of Sicom, Inc., the biotechnology division of Irvine, to join Shire. Previously, she held management positions and worked in all aspects of business development in various companies including the Coley Pharmaceutical Group, U.S. Bioscience, Schering-Plough, American Cyanamid and Genetics Institute.

'The addition of Barbara to Shire's Executive Team is consistent with our plans to continue our growth as a global specialty pharmaceutical company in a focused manner that builds on our proven strengths, and adds value for the medical professionals and patients we serve, as well as for our shareholders' concluded Emmens.

### **Noam Shani, the new VP of Biology Research and Development at Compugen Inc**

Compugen (<http://www.cgen.com>), a genomics-focused drug and diagnostic discovery company, has recently appointed Noam Shani as the new VP of Biology Research and Development. Shani will be responsible for leading the company's drug research and development programmes, and will have a key role in the strategy and corporate development activities at Compugen. Mor Amitai, President and CEO of Compugen, commented on the company's latest appointment, 'Dr. Shani is joining our senior management team during a period of significant progress and advancement for our Company. I am confident that his experience, talent, and energy will very quickly make him a key factor in achieving rapid and efficient advancement of promising therapeutic and

diagnostic candidates from discovery research and selection into clinical development'.

Most recently, Shani was based at Medgenics Inc. in a similar role, VP of Research and Development. In response to his new appointment, Shani said 'I am delighted to join Compugen at this exciting time in the Company's evolution. I have been impressed with Compugen's team and their unique approach to drug and diagnostic discovery that stems from the integration of advanced mathematics and computational technologies with biology'.

## Retirement

### **George Jacobs will retire from the executive committee at UCB**

George Jacobs, who has been the Chairman of the Executive Committee at UCB (<http://www.ucb-group.com>) since 1987, has announced that he will retire from his daily management activities as he approaches his 65th birthday. On January 1<sup>st</sup> 2005, Jacobs will replace Mark Eyskens as the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the UCB group. Consequently, Roch Doliveux will be promoted to Chairman of the Executive Committee from his current position as Deputy Chairman and CEO of UCB Pharma. Jacobs reflected on these changes, 'It is with great emotion, but also with confidence that I will withdraw from the daily management of the Group to which I have dedicated the best parts of my career. I know under the management of Roch Doliveux, whose qualities and vision we have all witnessed, UCB will successfully take up new challenge that is the progressive development of one of the very first global bio-pharmaceutical groups'.

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## Contributions to Monitor

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