

## **Mirrx Therapeutics wins battle over Blockmir technology in Danish Supreme Court**

**Vejle, Denmark, June 23, 2015.** Mirrx Therapeutics A/S today announced that the Danish Supreme Court has ruled in favor of Mirrx Therapeutics in a legal battle with Roche Innovation Center Copenhagen, formerly Santaris Pharma A/S. At the center of the legal conflict was Mirrx' so-called blockmir technology, which can be used to upregulate expression of specific mRNAs, with broad potential to treat a variety of diseases.

Mirrx founder Dr. Thorleif Møller invented the Blockmir technology in 2006, whilst employed as a patent attorney. The Blockmir inventions were based on Dr. Møller's extensive experience with RNA biology, in particular mRNA regulation by non-coding RNA. In late 2007, Dr. Møller approached Santaris Pharma regarding providing the company with a license to his inventions, but found no interest. However, in 2009 Santaris Pharma sued Mirrx Therapeutics, in an attempt to take control of the Blockmir technology.

Santaris alleged a large number of claims against Dr Møller and Mirrx Therapeutics, including that employees of Santaris were co-inventors of the Blockmir technology, that Blockmir technology is a derivative of Santaris' LNA antimir technology, that it was unlikely that Dr Møller could have invented Blockmir technology without the use of trade secrets belonging to Santaris Pharma and that Dr. Møller should not have been allowed to file patent applications because he worked as a patent attorney at the time that he invented the Blockmir technology.

In 2013, The Maritime and Commercial High Court of Denmark dismissed all Santaris' allegations, however, Santaris appealed the decision to the Danish Supreme Court. Santaris' claims for the Supreme Court appeal were limited to requesting a license to Mirrx Therapeutics' Blockmir technology in so far as LNA oligonucleotides are used, so that Santaris could use LNA oligonucleotides for upregulating mRNA for its own therapeutics programs.

Today, the Danish Supreme Court reached the same conclusions as the Danish Maritime and Commercial High Court. The decision by the Danish Supreme Court cannot be appealed.

"Finally, we can focus our resources on developing the Blockmir technology to enable gene specific upregulation of mRNA for treatment of disease" said Thorleif Møller, "The court case has obviously held us back, but even after almost 7 years of legal battle with Santaris, our technology has not become obsolete. On the contrary, there is greater interest than ever in upregulating gene activity, and Blockmir technology provides a unique way of doing this. We may have lost important time during the court case, but additional layers of more recently filed IP has expanded Mirrx' coverage over the field and provided longer patent life. We now look forward to expanding our existing collaborations and to entering into new ones to fulfil the promise of our technology as a new therapeutic approach to treating a range of diseases of high unmet medical need and market potential".

The full ruling in Danish can be found [here](#).



**About Mirrx Therapeutics A/S**

Mirrx Therapeutics is a privately owned Danish biotechnology company located in Vejle, Denmark, whose investors include Vecata A/S. Mirrx is developing a proprietary, novel, microRNA-blocking technology, Blockmirs, which are antisense oligonucleotides that selectively bind to a microRNA binding site on a target mRNA to upregulate expression of the mRNA. Blockmirs have the therapeutic potential to enhance the protein expression of previously undruggable targets, and to neutralise pathological microRNA signaling. The drug CD5-2 is Mirrx' lead therapeutic Blockmir candidate. In collaboration with the Centenary Institute of Cancer Medicine and Cell Biology, Mirrx is developing CD5-2 as a potent and selective VE-cadherin modulator for the treatment of diseases associated with vascular leak. [www.mirrx.com](http://www.mirrx.com)

**About Vecata Invest A/S**

Vecata Invest A/S is an investment company managing the Bagger-Sørensen Group's investments in the venture segment. Vecata's investments comprise venture backed companies primarily in life sciences, IT and technology and existing companies with attractive growth potential.

[www.vecata.com](http://www.vecata.com)

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