
**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): **February 4, 2019**

XENCOR, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State of incorporation)

001-36182
(Commission File No.)

20-1622502
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

**111 West Lemon Avenue
Monrovia, California 91016**
(Address of principal executive offices and zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(626) 305-5900**

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

On February 4, 2019, Xencor, Inc. (“Xencor”) entered into a Collaboration and License Agreement (the “Agreement”) with Genentech, Inc. and Hoffmann-LaRoche Ltd. (collectively, “Genentech”) pursuant to which Xencor and Genentech expect to develop and commercialize novel IL-15 cytokine therapeutics that use Xencor’s bispecific Fc technology, including XmAb®24306 (the “Collaboration Products”), in the areas of cancer immunotherapy. The parties will jointly collaborate on the worldwide development of XmAb24306 and other Collaboration Products with Genentech maintaining all worldwide commercialization rights, subject to Xencor having a co-promotion option in the United States. Xencor has the right to perform clinical studies of Collaboration Products in combination with other therapeutic agents, subject to certain requirements. Genentech received a worldwide exclusive license to the Collaboration Products.

Under the terms of the Agreement, Xencor will receive a \$120 million upfront payment and is eligible to receive up to an aggregate of \$160 million in clinical milestone payments for each Collaboration Product that advances to Phase 3 clinical trials. Xencor is eligible to receive a 45% share of net profits for sales of XmAb24306 and other Collaboration Products, while also sharing in the net losses at the same percentage rate. The companies will also jointly share development and commercialization costs at the same percentage rate, while Genentech will bear launch costs entirely. The profit/cost share is subject to ratchet at Xencor’s discretion and convertible to a royalty under certain circumstances.

Xencor and Genentech will also conduct joint research activities for a two-year period to discover additional IL-15 candidates developed from Xencor’s cytokine and bispecific Fc technologies. Xencor will receive a \$20 million development milestone for each new Collaboration Product that is identified from the research efforts and advances into Phase 1 clinical trials.

The term of the Agreement will continue on a program-by-program and country-by-country basis until there are no remaining payment obligations from Genentech to Xencor with respect to Collaboration Products. Genentech may terminate the Agreement in its entirety or on a Collaboration Product-by-Collaboration Product basis by providing prior written notice. Xencor may terminate the Agreement on a Collaboration Product-by-Collaboration Product basis if Genentech fails to spend a defined minimum amount on research, development or commercialization activities for that Collaboration Product. Either party may also terminate the agreement with written notice upon a bankruptcy of the other party or for a material breach by the other party, if such breach has not been cured within a defined period of receiving such notice. In the event of a termination of any individual Collaboration Product or the Agreement in its entirety, the relevant rights revert to Xencor.

The Agreement is subject to customary closing conditions, including clearance under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act, and closing is expected to occur in the first half of 2019.

The foregoing description of the Agreement is only a summary and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Agreement. Xencor intends to file a copy of the Agreement as an exhibit to its Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for its fiscal quarter ending March 31, 2019, portions of which will be subject to a FOIA Confidential Treatment Request to the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Rule 24b-2 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, for certain portions of the Agreement. The omitted material will be included in the request for confidential treatment.

On February 5, 2019, Xencor issued a press release announcing the Agreement. A copy of this press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	Press release issued by Xencor, Inc. on February 5, 2019.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: February 5, 2019

XENCOR, INC.

By: /s/ Bassil I. Dahiyat
Bassil I. Dahiyat
President and Chief Executive Officer

Xencor to Develop and Commercialize Novel IL-15 Immune Activating Cytokines with Genentech

— Xencor Receives \$120 Million Upfront Payment, up to \$180 Million in Development Milestones Per Program and Profit Share from Commercialized Medicines —

MONROVIA, Calif., February 5, 2019 — Xencor, Inc. (NASDAQ: XNCR), a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company developing engineered monoclonal antibodies for the treatment of autoimmune disease, asthma and allergic disease, and cancer, today announced it has entered into a research and license agreement with Genentech, a member of the Roche Group, to develop and commercialize novel IL-15 cytokine therapeutics, including XmAb[®]24306. XmAb24306 is an IL-15/IL-15R α cytokine complex engineered with Xencor's bispecific Fc domain and Xtend[™] Fc technology and is Xencor's most advanced preclinical cytokine program.

“This partnership with Genentech accelerates our immuno-oncology work by enabling the exploration of novel XmAb24306 combinations with Genentech's leading oncology portfolio and our growing internal pipeline of bispecific antibodies,” said Bassil Dahiyat, Ph.D., president and chief executive officer at Xencor. “A wide-ranging combination strategy will be critical to realize the potential of IL-15 bispecific cytokines such as XmAb24306, so we plan to explore our cytokines with a broad spectrum of leading commercial-stage and investigational cancer therapies.”

“We believe cytokine therapy will play an important role in the treatment of a wide range of diseases, including cancer,” said James Sabry, M.D., Ph.D., global head of Pharma Partnering, Roche. “This collaboration with Xencor will further enhance our understanding of a critical immune activation pathway and may present a potential new way to use the immune system to target cancer.”

IL-15 is a highly active cytokine, or immune signaling protein, that when pre-complexed with IL-15 receptor alpha (IL-15R α) will bind to IL-15R $\beta\gamma$ and stimulate the expansion and activation of natural killer (NK) cells and cytotoxic T cells, but with reduced regulatory T cell activation compared to IL-2. Xencor's IL-15 bispecific cytokine platform provides a more druggable version of IL-15 with potentially superior tolerability, slower receptor-mediated clearance and a prolonged half-life, and is intended for development with a wide range of combination agents due to its proposed mechanism of activating tumor-killing immune cells.

Under the terms of the agreement, the companies will co-develop XmAb24306 and other potential IL-15 programs, in which the companies will share development costs and profits. Genentech will commercialize medicines worldwide, and Xencor has the option to co-promote in the United States. Additionally, the companies will engage in a two-year research program to discover new IL-15 drug candidates, including ones targeted to specific immune cell populations. Genentech will pay Xencor \$120 million upfront, and Xencor will be eligible to receive up to \$160 million in development milestones for the XmAb24306 program and up to \$180 million in development milestones for each new IL-15 drug candidate.

The agreement is subject to customary closing conditions, including clearance under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act, and closing is expected to occur in the first half of 2019.

About Xencor, Inc.

Xencor is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company developing engineered monoclonal antibodies for the treatment of autoimmune diseases, asthma and allergic diseases and cancer. Currently, 12 candidates engineered with Xencor's XmAb[®] technology are in clinical development internally and with partners. Xencor's internal programs include: obexelimab (XmAb[®]5871) in Phase 2 development for the treatment of IgG4-related disease, and also for the treatment of systemic lupus erythematosus; XmAb[®]7195 in Phase 1 development for the treatment of asthma and allergic diseases; XmAb[®]14045 in Phase 1 development for acute myeloid leukemia; XmAb[®]13676 in Phase 1 development for B-cell malignancies; XmAb[®]18087 in Phase 1 development for the treatment of neuroendocrine tumors and gastrointestinal stromal tumors; XmAb[®]20717 in Phase 1 development for the treatment of advanced solid tumors, and XmAb[®]22841, XmAb[®]23104 and XmAb[®]24306 in preclinical development for the treatment of multiple cancers. Xencor's XmAb antibody engineering technology enables small changes to the structure of monoclonal antibodies resulting in new mechanisms of therapeutic action. Xencor partners include Novartis, Amgen, MorphoSys, CSL, Alexion and Boehringer Ingelheim. For more information, please visit www.xencor.com.

Xencor Forward Looking Statement

Statements contained in this press release regarding matters that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements within the meaning of applicable securities laws, including, but not limited to, the quotations from Xencor's president and chief executive officer and any expectations relating to Xencor's financial expectations and business, the timing and success of clinical trials, future product candidates, Xencor's research and development programs, partnering efforts and capital requirements. Such statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results, performance or achievements and the timing of events to be materially different from those implied by such statements, and therefore these statements should not be read as guarantees of future performance or results. Such risks include, without limitation, the risks associated with the process of discovering, developing, manufacturing and commercializing drugs that are safe and effective for use as human therapeutics and other risks described in Xencor's public securities filings. For a discussion of these and other factors, please refer to Xencor's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017 as well as Xencor's subsequent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. All forward-looking statements are based on Xencor's current information and belief as well as assumptions made by Xencor. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. This caution is made under the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All forward-looking statements are qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement and Xencor undertakes no obligation to revise or update this press release to reflect events or circumstances after the date hereof, except as required by law.

Contacts

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