

Press information

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BioAscent and Keltic Pharma Therapeutics partner to give customers access to cutting-edge peptide discovery platform for GPCR targets

Collaboration set to enhance peptide discovery for challenging GPCR targets and advancing research across multiple therapeutic areas.

[Glasgow, UK – 19 November 2025] – BioAscent, a leading provider of integrated drug discovery services, today announced a strategic collaboration with Keltic Pharma Therapeutics to expand its peptide discovery capabilities. The partnership will give BioAscent customers access to Keltic’s proprietary **PEPSMOL® platform**, a breakthrough technology that translates cyclic peptide hits into potent, selective small molecules.

The collaboration enhances BioAscent’s existing peptide service offering by combining its high-quality screening and medicinal chemistry expertise with Keltic’s innovative peptide-to-small-molecule approach. Together, the companies will accelerate discovery for challenging drug targets - particularly G-protein coupled receptors (GPCRs), which have historically proven difficult to address with conventional methods.

“At BioAscent, we are committed to providing our customers with the most advanced tools and expertise to drive their discovery programmes forward,” said Dr Mike Piper, Chief Commercial Officer at BioAscent. “By integrating the PEPSMOL platform into our integrated drug discovery services, we can offer a powerful new route to high-quality leads for targets that were once considered intractable.”

Keltic’s PEPSMOL® platform enables the creation of **vast, precisely controlled cyclic peptide libraries**. Hits from these libraries can then be rapidly refined into drug-like

small molecules with improved pharmacokinetics, opening new opportunities across multiple therapeutic areas.

“This collaboration with BioAscent is an important milestone in making our platform broadly available to the biotech and pharma community,” said Andrew Tobin, CEO, Keltic Pharma. “By working with BioAscent’s experienced team and established customer base, we can help unlock new drug discovery opportunities and bring forward more effective treatments, faster.”

The partnership reflects a shared commitment to innovation and customer impact, ensuring BioAscent’s customers have access to a best-in-class, integrated solution for peptide-driven drug discovery.

To find out more about BioAscent’s integrated drug discovery expertise along with access to the innovative PEPSMOL® platform can help accelerate drug discovery programmes, visit www.bioascent.com.

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Photo caption: Dr Mike Piper, Chief Commercial Officer, BioAscent

Notes to editors

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About BioAscent Discovery Ltd.

Founded in 2013, BioAscent is a leading provider of integrated drug discovery services based at the former Organon / MSD R&D site in Newhouse, Scotland, UK.

The company’s drug discovery services include de novo assay development, target analysis and bespoke screening strategies, compound screening (including HTS), medicinal and synthetic chemistry, in silico discovery and compound management, all with access to in-house diversity and fragment libraries.

BioAscent’s team of expert scientists has experience of successfully working from assay development through to preclinical and clinical candidates across all biological target classes and major therapeutic indications. As part of its compound management

service, BioAscent currently holds and manages over 1.5 million compounds for our customers, in both liquid and solid formats.

Since 2013, the BioAscent team has been responsible for:

- >150 biochemical, biophysical and cellular assays for drug discovery projects, across all key target classes including GPCRs, multiple enzyme classes (including covalent programmes), nuclear receptors, protein-protein, protein-DNA and protein-RNA interactions
- Multiple HTS and fragment screens using multiple libraries of up to 250k in size and triaged the outcomes of over 120 HTS campaigns
- >50 hit validation/characterisation projects
- >30 hit-to-lead campaigns, including successfully driving a project to candidate selection and out licensing to big pharma, and driving a second against an unprecedented target from initial hit finding to in vivo efficacy
- >100,000 screening plates delivered to our global customers/partners

About Keltic Pharma Therapeutics

Keltic Pharma is a University of Glasgow spin-out, pioneering next-generation drug discovery through its proprietary **PEPSMOL**® platform - a world-first technology that translates peptide biology into small-molecule therapeutics. By bridging the gap between academic insight and industrial application, Keltic is accelerating the development of new treatments across major disease areas including **malaria, Parkinson's disease, and severe asthma**.

Headquartered in Scotland, Keltic brings together world-class scientific expertise in GPCR pharmacology, chemistry and AI-enabled discovery to deliver faster, smarter, and more translatable drug candidates.

For more information, visit www.keltic-pharma.com.



Mike Piper