

Daily Research Highlights

NewLink Genetics Corporation: Conversion of Loan to Modest Royalty - Incremental Positive - Maintain BUY

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March 27

NewLink Genetics Corporation (NLNK, BUY, Target: \$12.00) Mara Goldstein (212-610-2215, mgoldstein@cantor.com)

Conversion of Loan to Modest Royalty - Incremental Positive - Maintain BUY

- NewLink announced today that the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) will exchange its \$6 million loan to NewLink in exchange for a 0.5% royalty on future products up to the total amount of the loan. Given the modest size of the royalty and our expectation that if HyperAcute Pancreas is approved, it will take four years to satisfy the loan conversion, we are not altering our forward projections at this time.
- This conversion is an incremental positive as it (1) removes any overhang associated with repayment of loan and (2) allows the company to repay the loan from product sales rather than from current cash. Though the second was not a great concern to us given that NewLink had been able to secure waivers for repayment annually, it nonetheless frees up funds that otherwise would have been earmarked for payment, which we believe will make NewLink more attractive to potential partners.
- We maintain our price target of \$12 and BUY rating. This is based on a 40x multiple on our forecasted 2016 EPS of \$2.26 discounted at 50%.



Disclosures Appendix

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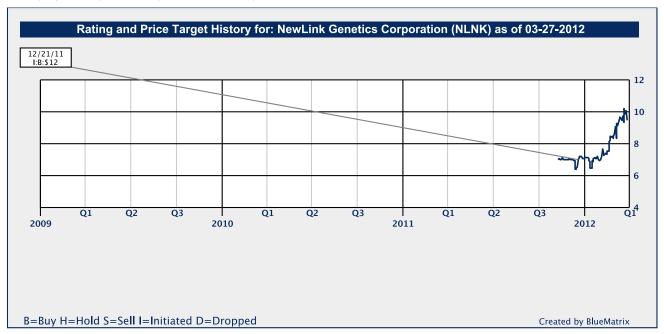
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Distribution of Ratings/Investment Banking Services (IB) as of 03/28/12 Cantor

			IB Ser	v./Past 12 Mos.	
Rating	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
BUY [B]	53	53.54	4	7.55	
HOLD [H]	36	36.36	1	2.78	
SELL [S]	10	10.10	0	0.00	