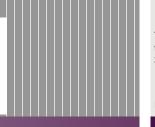
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Kite Pharma, Inc.

KITE - BUY - Expands R&D Collaboration with NCI; Update on Pipeline Expansion into Solid Tumors



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FLASH NOTE

SECTOR: Biopharmaceuticals

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Yesterday, KITE (BUY, \$64.12) presented at a competitor conference on its CAR-T immunotherapy portfolio as well as providing further detail on the expansion of its NCI collaboration. KITE reiterated its solid IP through 2027 and is moving forward aggressively with clinical trials, with its KTE-C19 product candidate in blood cancers expected in the clinic in 2015.

KITE expands R&D collaboration with NCI: KITE announced that it has amended its Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with the National Cancer Institute (NCI), adding new TCR and CAR product candidates to the collaboration. Quarterly payments to the NCI will jump from \$250,000 to \$750,000. The expansion broadens KITE's strong relationship with the NCI, providing additional product candidates for KITE's pipeline, specifically new solid-tumor-focused CARs as well as TCRs, including colorectal and lung cancer indications. We believe the solid tumor focus with CAR-T is a potential way to differentiate Amgen (AMGN, NEUTRAL, \$159.63) from its existing programs, which mainly focus on liquid tumors.

HPV TCR bolsters KITE's solid tumor pipeline: KITE announced further detail on its HPV TCR program, an exclusive, worldwide license with the NIH that offers TCR's directed against HPV-16 E6 and E7 oncoproteins, viral antigens that are constitutively expressed by malignant cells and therefore represent attractive therapeutic targets. The program studies HPV-16 E6 TCR and HPV-16 E7 TCR in head/neck and cervical cancer. Phase 1 and 2 trials (n=61) have been initiated under the KITE/NCI CRADA agreement, with an estimated completion in 1H19.

KITE's first manufacturing facility will be launched in 2017: Manufacturing processes remain a bottleneck for the company, as CEO Arie Belldegrun reiterated yesterday, but the company projects it will be ready for FDA inspection of its Santa Monica facility in Q2/Q3 of 2016. Belldegrun mentioned that while commercial manufacturing awaits FDA review, clinical manufacturing does require FDA certification.

Near-term drivers are KTE-C19 in DLBCL: Solid tumor biggest unknown upside driver: We believe additional KTE-C19 data in DLBCL and other initial CD19 data in blood tumors (MCL, ALL, CLL) are the biggest near-term potential drivers of KITE. Positive readouts from solid tumors could provide significant upside. Data presented yesterday was positive, but without further initial data it is too soon to value.

IP structure welcomes multiple players in the TCR space: When asked to describe the IP around TCR, Belldegrun commented that there is no "umbrella patent" that broadly covers any one indication. Referring to KITE's two TCR programs, NY-ESO-1 for solid tumors and HPV-16 for cervical/head and neck cancer, Belldegrun commented "you either have the gene or you don't," meaning the new targets KITE is accumulating are individual proprietary targets. We believe this will drive more strategic collaboration in the CAR-T landscape as multiple players collaborate on a variety of targets for broad indications.

We anticipate a broader update on KITE's analyst day on May 5.



KITE catalyst calendar					
Product	Event	Status/Completion Date			
KTE-C19	Initiate Ph 2 trials in DLBCL, PMBCL, TFL, MCL	1H15, est. 2017 completion			
		2H15; est. 2017			
	Initiate Ph 2 trials in ALL, CLL	completion			
EGFRvIII CAR	Initiate Ph 2 trials in glioblastoma	est. 2018 completion			
	Initiate Ph 2 trials in solid tumors (lung,				
NY-ESO-1 TCR	melanoma, bladder, ovarian, synovial sarcomas) Initiate Ph 2 trials in cervical/head and neck	est. 2017 completion			
HPV-16 E6 TCR	cancer	est. 2019 completion			
	Initiate Ph 1 trials in cervical/head and neck				
HPV-16 E7 TCR	cancer	est. 2019 completion			

 $[\]hbox{*Source: Company reports and Guggenheim Securities, LLC estimates}$

ANALYST CERTIFICATION

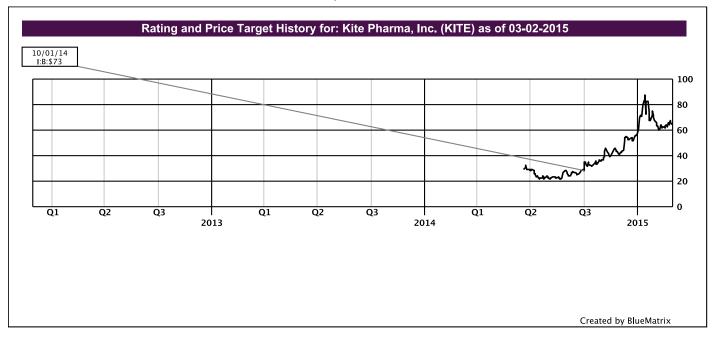
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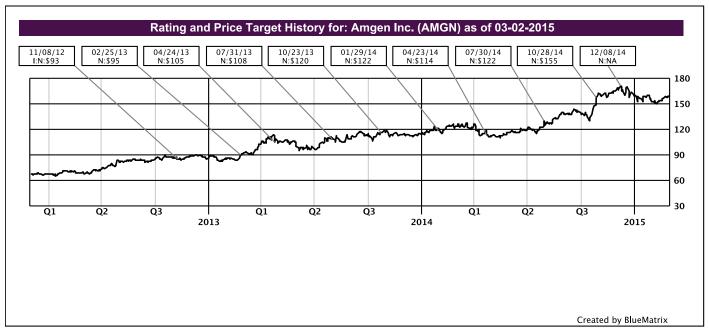
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