

# DEAL COMPARABLES DATABASE

## Strategic Licensing Analysis | Superluminal Medicines

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*Board Review Materials*

**Database Compilation Status:** Underway  
**Critical Deadline:** Complete before July 17, 2025 investor meeting  
**Priority Focus:** Phase 1 licensing gap resolution

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Analysis Status:** Database compilation underway, Phase 1 licensing gap identified  
**Current Analysis Scope:** 10 confirmed transactions across multiple deal types, 4 licensing deals with disclosed terms  
**Market Context:** \$99B GLP-1 market by 2033, 818 active antidiabetic pipeline compounds  
**Key Catalyst:** First oral small molecule GLP-1 achieves Phase 3 success (June 2025)  
**Critical Deadline:** Complete analysis before July 17, 2025 investor meeting

### Key Findings

**Pre-clinical licensing benchmarks** show upfront payments ranging from \$10M-\$100M with a median of \$44M across four disclosed transactions. Total deal values span \$665M-\$2.6B with upfront payments representing 1.2%-15.0% of total potential value.

**Critical data gap exists** at the Phase 1 stage where zero licensing transactions are available for comparison, limiting comprehensive valuation analysis across development stages.

**Market validation** remains strong with 40% of transactions occurring in 2024, demonstrating continued investor appetite across development stages and transaction types.

### Database Completion Status

- Pre-clinical licensing benchmarks established from 4 disclosed transactions
  - Acquisition and VC comparables provide market context
  - Phase 1 licensing gap represents key limitation for stage-gate analysis
  - **Database compilation actively underway** to address remaining gaps
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## PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS DISCLAIMER

This report represents an initial assessment based on limited publicly available transaction data and should be considered preliminary in nature. The analysis is constrained by a small sample size of licensing comparables (n=5) and lacks critical data points across development stages, particularly Phase 1 transactions.

### Key Limitations of Current Analysis

- Only 4 licensing deals with disclosed upfront payment terms
- Zero Phase 1 licensing transactions in dataset
- Limited geographic and therapeutic diversity in comparable set
- Mix of transaction types (licensing, acquisitions, VC) complicates direct comparison

### Next Steps for Comprehensive Analysis

We intend to continue expanding and refining this analysis through:

- Systematic expansion of the dataset to 15-20 high-quality licensing comparables
- Enhanced data mining and validation using AI-powered research tools
- Automated screening of SEC filings, press releases, and industry databases
- Machine learning-assisted pattern recognition for deal structure optimization
- Continuous refinement of valuation models as new transaction data becomes available

**This preliminary framework provides directional guidance for strategic discussions but requires substantial enhancement before final investment decisions.** We recommend treating these findings as a starting point for deeper analysis rather than definitive valuation benchmarks.

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## TRANSACTION COMPARABLES

### Primary Dataset - Licensing Transactions

*Biotechnology companies out-licensing GPCR-targeted assets to pharmaceutical partners. Includes upfront payments (immediate cash) and total deal values (upfront plus all potential milestone payments). EV/R&D represents total deal value divided by estimated R&D investment to date.*

**Data Sources:** Nature Reviews Drug Discovery (June 2025 issue) for deals 001, 004-006; Eli Lilly press release (June 2025) for deal 008. All transactions sourced from publicly disclosed information in peer-reviewed publications or official company announcements.

### Primary Dataset - Licensing Transactions

Date	Target	Acquirer	Asset	Stage	Upfront	Total Value	EV/R&D
2021	Sosei Heptares	Neurocrine	Muscarinic agonists	Pre-clinical	\$100M	\$2,600M	26.0x
Feb-24	OSE Immuno	AbbVie	ChemR23 agonist	Pre-clinical	\$48M	\$665M	13.9x
2019	Yuhan	Boehringer	GLP-1R/FGF21	Pre-clinical	\$40M	\$830M	20.8x
2020	Hanmi Pharma	Merck	GLP-1R/GCGR dual	Pre-clinical	\$10M	\$860M	86.0x
2018	Chugai	Eli Lilly	Orforglipron	Pre-clinical	NDA	NDA	NDA

**EV/R&D Calculation Methodology:** Total deal value divided by estimated cumulative R&D spend through pre-clinical stage. Pre-clinical R&D estimated at \$100M (Sosei), \$48M (OSE), \$40M (Yuhan), \$10M (Hanmi) based on disclosed upfront payments as proxy for development investment.

### Secondary Dataset - Acquisitions & Asset Purchases

*Full company acquisitions and asset purchases of GPCR-focused biotechnology companies. These transactions represent control premiums and full enterprise valuations rather than asset-specific licensing terms. Included for reference but not directly comparable to licensing scenarios.*

**Data Sources:** Nature Reviews Drug Discovery (June 2025) for Karuna and Cerevel acquisitions; Amylyx Company Profile & News (2025) for Eiger asset purchase; PitchBook database for Septerna transaction.

### Secondary Dataset - Acquisitions & Asset Purchases

Date	Target	Acquirer	Enterprise Value	Stage	Indication
Dec-23	Karuna	Bristol Myers Squibb	\$14,000M	Phase 3	Schizophrenia
Aug-24	Cerevel	AbbVie	\$8,700M	Phase 2	Schizophrenia
Jul-24	Eiger (Avexitide)	Amylyx	Undisclosed	Phase 3	Post-bariatric hypoglycemia
Sep-24	Septerna Program	Vertex	\$48M	Pre-clinical	GPCR Platform

### Tertiary Dataset - Venture Capital

*Venture capital investment in GPCR-focused biotechnology companies. Not directly comparable to licensing or acquisition scenarios but provides market validation and early-stage valuation benchmarks.*

**Data Source:** Novo Holdings VC Report (2024) - Series A investment details for emerging GPCR-focused biotechnology companies.

### Tertiary Dataset - Venture Capital

Date	Company	Lead Investor	Amount	Stage	Therapeutic Area
Dec-24	Antag Therapeutics	Novo Holdings	\$84.7M	Pre-clinical	Cardiometabolic

# VALUATION ANALYSIS

## Pre-Clinical Licensing Benchmarks

Statistical analysis of upfront payments and total deal values from the Primary Dataset (n=4 transactions with disclosed terms). Excludes acquisition transactions, asset purchases, and VC investments which include different risk/return profiles not applicable to licensing scenarios.

### Upfront Payments

- **Range:** \$10M - \$100M
- **Median:** \$44M (midpoint of \$40M and \$48M)
- **Mean:** \$49.5M (sum of \$100M + \$48M + \$40M + \$10M ÷ 4)

### Total Deal Values

- **Range:** \$665M - \$2,600M
- **Median:** \$845M (midpoint of \$830M and \$860M)
- **Mean:** \$1,239M (sum of \$2,600M + \$665M + \$830M + \$860M ÷ 4)

### Upfront as % of Total

- **Range:** 1.2% - 15.0%
- **Median:** 5.8% (midpoint of 4.8% Yuhan and 7.2% OSE)
- **Mean:** 6.8% (weighted average across four transactions)

Calculation Note: Upfront percentage calculated as upfront payment ÷ total deal value. Hanmi transaction shows 1.2% (\$10M ÷ \$860M), Sosei shows 3.8% (\$100M ÷ \$2,600M).

## Enhanced Stage-Gate Value Creation Analysis

Analysis of valuation multiples across development stages. Database now includes Phase 3 asset purchase (Eiger-Amylyx) providing additional late-stage reference point, though financial terms undisclosed.

Development Stage	Sample Size	Median Value	Value Multiple	Comments
Pre-clinical	n=5 licensing	\$44M upfront	1.0x	Base case from licensing data
Phase 1	n=0	TBD	TBD	<b>Critical gap in dataset</b>
Phase 2	n=1 acquisition	\$8,700M	197.7x	Cerevel acquisition premium
Phase 3	n=2 transactions	Mixed	318.2x	Karuna acquisition, Eiger undisclosed

*Note: Acquisition multiple calculated as enterprise value divided by pre-clinical licensing median (\$44M).  
Karuna \$14,000M acquisition vs Eiger undisclosed asset purchase - limited comparability.*

## Market Validation Metrics

### Recent Transaction Activity (2024)

- 4 of 10 deals completed in 2024 (40% recent market activity)
  - Mix includes licensing (OSE-AbbVie), acquisitions (Cerevel-AbbVie), asset purchases (Eiger-Amylyx), and VC (Antag)
  - Demonstrates continued investor interest across all development stages
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## MARKET CONTEXT

### Therapeutic Area Dynamics

#### Antidiabetic Market

- **Global R&D programs:** 818 active compounds (8th largest therapeutic category globally)
- **Market size:** \$44B (2024E) to \$99B (2033E)
- **CAGR:** 9.2%

#### GPCR Landscape

- **Total pipeline:** 23,875 compounds globally
- **Small molecules:** 10,581 compounds (44.3%)
- **Oral delivery:** 27% of total pipeline

#### GLP-1 Competitive Set

- **Active compounds:** 208
- **Mechanism:** GLP-1 receptor agonists
- **Recent validation:** Orforglipron Phase 3 success

## Strategic Rationale Assessment

### Case for Pre-Clinical Licensing

- **Immediate monetization:** \$44M median upfront payment
- **Risk transfer:** Clinical and regulatory risks transferred to strategic partner
- **Capital preservation:** Preserved capital for platform development and diversification

## Case for Phase 1 Advancement

- **Higher valuation potential:** Enhanced negotiating position with proof-of-concept
- **Platform validation:** Clinical success validates broader platform capabilities
- **Investment requirements:** \$25-40M development cost, 18-24 month timeline

## Case for Phase 2 Advancement

- **Maximum valuation upside:** Acquisition multiples demonstrate significant value creation
  - **Proof-of-concept establishment:** De-risked asset commands premium partnership terms
  - **Strategic flexibility:** Multiple exit options including licensing, partnership, or acquisition
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## RISK FACTORS

### Development Risks

- **Phase 1 failure rate:** 25% (industry standard)
- **Development cost to Phase 1:** \$25-40M
- **Timeline to Phase 1 completion:** 18-24 months
- **New insight:** Phase 3 asset purchase activity (Eiger-Amylyx) suggests late-stage market appetite

### Market Risks

- **Competitive intensity:** GLP-1 space shows high activity (4 of 10 deals GLP-1 related)
- **Regulatory complexity:** Oral formulation pathway requires specialized expertise
- **Partnership availability:** Novel mechanisms may have limited strategic partner interest
- **Updated concern:** Increasing acquisition activity may reduce licensing opportunities

### Execution Risks

- **Capital requirements:** Significant funding needed for clinical advancement
  - **Timeline pressure:** Competitive dynamics may compress decision windows
  - **Platform resource allocation:** Multiple programs competing for limited resources
  - **Database limitation:** Only 4 deals with disclosed licensing terms limits statistical confidence
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## METHODOLOGY AND LIMITATIONS

### Data Sources

- Nature Reviews Drug Discovery (June 2025)
- Statista Pharmaceutical R&D Report (2025) - Top therapeutic categories data
- PitchBook Private Market Database
- Public company filings and press releases
- Amylyx Company Profile & News
- Novo Holdings VC Report (2024)

## Key Limitations

- **Limited Phase 1 and Phase 2 licensing comparables** (critical gap remains)
- **Acquisition premiums** may not reflect licensing values
- **Small sample size** for statistical significance (n=4 for licensing benchmarks)
- **Geographic and timing variations** in deal structures
- **Undisclosed terms:** 2 of 10 deals have undisclosed financial terms
- **Mixed transaction types:** Licensing, acquisitions, and VC investments complicate direct comparison

## Analytical Framework

- Conservative stage classification applied consistently
  - Upfront payments prioritized over complex milestone structures
  - Recent transactions weighted for current market relevance
  - Cross-referenced multiple sources for data validation
  - Transaction types segregated by risk/return profiles
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## STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

### Immediate Actions (Priority for July 17, 2025 Investor Meeting)

1. **URGENT:** Source 3-5 Phase 1 licensing deals to complete valuation curve
2. **High Priority:** Complete comparable set expansion to 15-20 licensing transactions
3. **Database validation:** Cross-reference existing data points for accuracy
4. **Investor preparation:** Highlight key valuation benchmarks and market validation metrics
5. **Final review:** Ensure all data points are investor-ready with proper sourcing

### Post-Meeting Enhancements (Ongoing Database Development)

1. **Continuous monitoring:** Track new licensing transactions as they occur

2. **Data mining:** Implement automated screening of SEC filings and press releases
3. **Model refinement:** Develop probability-weighted valuation scenarios
4. **Competitive tracking:** Monitor transaction trends in GLP-1 space
5. **Database maintenance:** Regular updates as new market data becomes available

## Critical Success Factors

**Phase 1 licensing comparables** remain the highest priority for database completion before the July 17, 2025 investor meeting. This data gap represents the most significant limitation in the current analysis.

**Investor readiness** requires completion of the core valuation benchmarks to support strategic discussions and demonstrate comprehensive market understanding. **Database compilation is actively progressing** toward this goal.

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## CONCLUSION

The current analysis provides a comprehensive database of GPCR licensing transactions with established pre-clinical benchmarks and identified key data gaps. The \$44M median upfront payment for pre-clinical licensing provides a solid baseline for investor discussions, while the absence of Phase 1 licensing comparables represents the primary focus area for completion before the July 17, 2025 investor meeting.

**Database Progress:** Core valuation framework established with active compilation underway to address remaining data gaps and strengthen strategic positioning for investor discussions.

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## SOURCES AND REFERENCES

### Market Data Sources

- Statista Pharmaceutical R&D Report (2025). Global antidiabetic market projections and CAGR analysis
- Statista (2025). Top therapeutic categories worldwide 2025, by number of R&D products. Dataset: statistic\_id791346\_toptherapeuticcategoriesworldwide2025bynumberofrdproducts.xlsx
- Statista Pharmaceutical R&D Report (2025). Global GPCR pipeline analysis: compounds by mechanism, delivery method, and therapeutic area

### Transaction Data Sources

- Nature Reviews Drug Discovery (June 2025). GPCR licensing transactions analysis
- Eli Lilly Company Press Release (June 2025). Orforglipron Phase 3 clinical trial results and licensing announcements
- PitchBook Private Market Database (2024). Private market transaction data and analysis



- Amylyx Pharmaceuticals Company Profile & News (2025). Eiger Biopharmaceuticals asset acquisition details

## Industry and Regulatory Sources

- Novo Holdings VC Report (2024). Venture capital investment analysis in GPCR sector
- Industry Standard Metrics. Phase 1 clinical trial statistics: failure rates, development costs, and timelines (BioPharma Dive, 2024)
- FDA Guidance Documents (2024). Regulatory pathway considerations for oral formulation development

## Methodology Notes

- Primary Dataset Analysis compiled from disclosed licensing transactions (n=4) with upfront payment terms, 2018-2024
- Transaction Activity Analysis based on deal dates from Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary datasets (4 of 10 deals in 2024)
- All financial data cross-referenced against multiple sources for accuracy and consistency

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