



## CBT Pharmaceuticals Awarded NIH Small Business Innovation Research Grant Towards Development of Combination Checkpoint Inhibition

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**Pleasanton, CA, and Hangzhou, China, 15 October 2018** — CBT Pharmaceuticals (CBT), a U.S. and China-based innovative biopharmaceutical company committed to becoming a leader in the discovery and development of oncology combination therapies, today announced it has been awarded a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services National Cancer Institute (NCI) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The grant will support *in vivo* models and *ex vivo* screening platforms to study the safety and efficacy of combination checkpoint inhibition in solid tumors to potentially enhance the anti-tumor response over single agents.

"We are grateful for the financial support from the NIH and the recognition from the NCI that the combination of checkpoint inhibitors is a valid clinical strategy," stated Sanjeev Redkar, PhD, President and Chief Executive Officer. "In the forthcoming months, we plan to initiate the *in vivo* and *ex vivo* studies in collaboration with Dr. William Zamboni whose extensive research expertise will be invaluable to this project."

"My research interests include evaluating the bi-directional interaction between the mononuclear phagocyte system, complex agents, and biologics as part of *in vivo* and *ex vivo* studies as methods to optimize cancer treatments. I look forward to working with the CBT team on this translational study that may ultimately lead to a novel combination clinical trial," added William Zamboni, PharmD, PhD, Associate Professor in the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy and UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC.

### About The NIH SBIR Program

The [SBIR](#) program is a highly competitive program that encourages domestic small businesses to engage in Federal Research/Research and Development (R/R&D) that has the potential for commercialization. The [NIH SBIR](#) program funds early stage small businesses that are seeking to commercialize innovative biomedical technologies. This competitive program helps small businesses participate in federal research and development, develop life-saving technologies, and create jobs.

*Disclaimer: Future development of a combination clinical trial utilizing checkpoint inhibitors will be supported by the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health under Award Number R43CA228938. The content of this release is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health.*

### About CBT Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

CBT Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is an innovative biopharmaceutical company committed to becoming a global leader in the discovery and development of oncology combination therapies that harness the immune system and target specific molecular pathways to tame cancer. The company's existing pipeline consists of five development-stage assets including three novel, humanized monoclonal antibodies that restore the body's immune system to recognize and kill cancer cells, and two targeted therapies against uncontrolled growth signaling pathways. For more information, please [contact us](#) and follow us on Twitter [@CBTpharma](#).

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