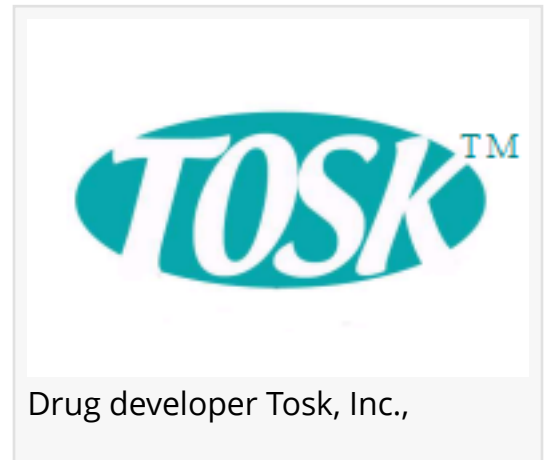


Tosk Announces kRAS Presentation at AACR Meeting

Tosk, U.S. National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Frederick National Laboratory and the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center makes joint presentation in San Diego

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA, USA, December 13, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Privately held biotechnology company, Tosk, Inc., announced today a joint presentation with the U.S. National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Frederick National Laboratory and the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center (TTHSC) at a meeting this week in San Diego, CA. The meeting, entitled "Targeting RAS-Driven Cancers," was sponsored by the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR). The presentation was entitled "kRAS and Metabolism: An Interesting Interplay."

Mutations in the human kRAS gene drive 90% of pancreatic cancers, 45% of colon cancers, and 35% of lung cancers. Patients with certain mutated kRAS genes also do not benefit from



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William Garland, Vice President, Research & Development

treatment with a widely-used class of cancer drugs known as EGFR inhibitors, such as Erbitux®. An effective inhibitor of mutated kRAS would address these unmet medical needs and provide an important, new treatment for cancer.

[Tosk features proprietary discovery technology using the common fruit fly](#) to discover potential kRAS-inhibiting drugs. This discovery platform uses fruit flies with a mutated human kRAS gene integrated into their genome, causing the fly's wings to be crimped. Tosk screens for drugs which reverse this wing crimping by inhibiting the protein produced by the mutated kRAS gene.

The presentation discussed how a small molecule discovered by Tosk, partially restored normal wing

development in the kRAS mutated flies and inhibited growth and signal transduction in multiple, oncogenic kRAS-driven cell lines. The goal of the successful collaboration between Tosk, NCI's Frederick Laboratory, and TTHSC was to establish the mechanism-of-action of the discovered inhibitor. The work at Tosk and TTHSC was funded by an SBIR grant from NCI.

Dr. William Garland, Vice President of Research and Development at Tosk stated, "This innovative

work on the discovered inhibitor provided important information on the previously, not fully appreciated, interplay between mutated KRAS and a metabolic process. The information gained will help future work at Tosk. [The results demonstrate the power of collaboration](#) among a small research company, academia, and a large public research institute. None of the groups alone could have achieved the advance reported in our joint presentation.”

About Tosk, Inc.

Tosk’s mission is to improve outcomes for cancer patients by discovering and developing new drugs that selectively block the adverse side effects of cancer therapies and make certain drugs effective in patients that currently do not benefit from treatment. Tosk uses proprietary drug screening methods using the common fruit fly to discover new drugs that might not be found using more conventional methods.

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