

AstraZeneca to sell molecule antibiotics business to Pfizer

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Pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca plans to sell its molecule antibiotics business to Pfizer in a deal that will be valued in excess of \$1.5 billion when rights, royalties and other payments are included.

The sale marks a thawing of relations between the British company and New York-based Pfizer after an acrimonious battle to avoid a takeover just a few years ago.

Under the [deal](#), AstraZeneca will sell the commercialization and development rights in most markets globally outside the United States. It includes an upfront payment of \$550 million.

Luke Miels, the head of the antibiotics business unit at AstraZeneca, says the company is "pleased that our strong science in antibiotics will continue to serve a critical public health need through Pfizer's dedicated focus on [infectious diseases](#)."

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