

Novartis acquires US pharma research firm Selexys Pharmaceuticals

November 21 2016

Swiss-based pharmaceuticals giant Novartis said Monday it was acquiring Selexys Pharmaceuticals Corp., a US research lab in blood and inflammatory disorders, in a deal costing up to \$665 million (627 million euros).

Selexys specialises in [sickle cell disease](#), an inherited form of anaemia that is most common among people of African descent.

In a statement, Novartis said it exercised rights to buy the company after seeing results from a large trial into a drug to treat pain for people with the disease.

The drug, called SelG1, aims at easing so-called vaso-occlusive pain crises, which happen when sickle-shaped [red blood cells](#) block the flow through blood vessels.

The prototype treatment has just completed the second phase of the three-phase process to test new drugs for safety and effectiveness.

"Sickle cell disease affects millions of people around the world and there are limited therapies available for treatment of vaso-occlusive pain crises, a very common complication of the disease," Bruno Strigini, head of CEO of Novartis Oncology, said in the statement.

© 2016 AFP

Citation: Novartis acquires US pharma research firm Selexys Pharmaceuticals (2016, November 21) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2016-11-novartis-pharma-firm-selexys-pharmaceuticals.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.