

## UCB, Cancer Research UK and Cancer Research Horizons announce new strategic alliance to accelerate development of novel cancer therapies

- **Alliance expands on successful multi-project collaboration between UCB and Cancer Research UK's Centre for Drug Development**
- **Adding to the two programs currently underway with CRUK, UCB has nominated two additional projects from its pipeline for development**

**Brussels (Belgium) 7<sup>th</sup> MAY 2026, 07:00 (CEST)** – UCB, a global biopharmaceutical company, today announced a new multi-project strategic alliance with Cancer Research UK and its innovation arm, Cancer Research Horizons'. The collaboration will unite Cancer Research UK's and Cancer Research Horizons' world-leading oncology expertise with UCB's strengths in discovery and development to advance a pipeline of novel investigational oncology candidates.

Under the new alliance, Cancer Research UK's Centre for Drug Development and Cancer Research Horizons' Therapeutic Innovation teams will work with UCB to progress potential therapeutics from research stages through to early clinical development. The alliance is designed to accelerate the translation of cutting-edge science into potential new cancer medicines capable of improving outcomes for patients.

The alliance follows a successful multi-project collaboration between UCB and Cancer Research UK's Centre for Drug Development, announced in 2023, which has progressed two antibody drug candidates into ongoing clinical trials recruiting across multiple UK and European sites. The Parties are now expanding the partnership to include earlier-stage discovery and preclinical programmes, with UCB seeking to leverage Cancer Research UK's deep oncology knowledge, access to leading clinical investigators, and extensive drug discovery and development capabilities.

As part of the alliance, UCB will nominate research and development projects from its internal discovery pipeline at any stage of development. Each selected project that enters the alliance will be jointly progressed through discovery and preclinical development activities, with Cancer Research UK's Centre for Drug Development then responsible for the design, preparation, sponsorship and performance of a Phase 1/2 clinical trial for each candidate. UCB has nominated two projects to enter this new alliance.

Research and development costs will be funded jointly by the partners. UCB will retain exclusive rights to further develop and commercialise all programmes that enter the alliance and Cancer Research Horizons will receive undisclosed success-based milestone and royalty payments contingent on downstream project progression.

**Lars Erwig, Director of the Centre for Drug Development at Cancer Research UK, said:** "This alliance exemplifies our mission to translate exceptional science into life-changing treatments for people with cancer. By integrating our oncology expertise with UCB's strengths in molecule discovery, we can accelerate the development of innovative therapeutics with the potential to make real impact for patients."

**Alistair Henry, Executive Vice President & Chief Scientific Officer at UCB said,** "Partnering with CRUK's Centre for Drug Development and Cancer Research Horizons allows us to harness their world-class oncology expertise and clinical insights, complementing UCB's strengths in discovery and development. This



collaboration is a testament to the power of strategic alliances and creates a unique synergy that will enable us to advance promising therapies more efficiently and effectively.”

## For further information

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## About UCB

UCB, Brussels, Belgium ([www.ucb.com](http://www.ucb.com)) is a global biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery and development of innovative medicines and solutions to transform the lives of people living with severe diseases of the immune system or of the central nervous system. With more than 9000 people in approximately 40 countries, the company generated revenue of € 7.7 billion in 2025. UCB is listed on Euronext Brussels (symbol: UCB).

## About Cancer Research UK's Centre for Drug Development

Cancer Research UK has an impressive record of developing novel treatments for cancer. The Cancer Research UK Centre for Drug Development has been pioneering the development of new cancer treatments for 30 years. It has completed over 170 clinical trials designed to explore potential new anti-cancer agents in patients. Six of these new agents have made it to market, including temozolomide for brain cancer, abiraterone for prostate cancer and rucaparib for ovarian cancer.

## About Cancer Research Horizons

Cancer Research Horizons is the innovation engine of Cancer Research UK – the world's largest charitable funder of cancer research. It brings together world-leading minds, bold ideas and the right partners to bridge the gap between academic research and taking drugs to market. It focuses on the tougher, more profound ideas that can lead to true innovation, translating them into effective treatments and diagnostics for cancer patients. To date, it has played an instrumental role in forming over 90 start-ups. It has helped bring 14 cancer drugs to market, born out of Cancer Research UK's pioneering research. Through these drugs, it has enabled in excess of 6 million courses of treatment for cancer patients across the world. With access to Cancer Research UK's network of 4,000 exceptional researchers, and £400m of annual research spend, it is a powerful partner in the fight to conquer cancer. By uniting its commercial partnerships and therapeutic innovation capabilities, Cancer Research Horizons is uniquely placed to support translational funding, entrepreneurial development, data licensing and collaboration, spin-out creation, and offer a full spectrum of drug discovery and clinical capabilities. Every penny it makes goes back into funding the next bold steps, to help bring forward the day when all cancers are conquered.

## Forward-looking statements

This document contains forward-looking statements, including, without limitation, statements that may contain the words “potential”, “believes”, “anticipates”, “expects”, “intends”, “plans”, “seeks”, “estimates”, “may”, “will”, “continue” and similar expressions. These forward-looking statements are based on current plans, estimates and beliefs of management. All statements, other than statements of historical facts, are statements that could be deemed forward-looking statements, including estimates of revenues, operating margins, capital expenditures, cash, other financial information, expected legal, arbitration, political, regulatory or clinical results or practices and





other such estimates and results. By their nature, such forward-looking statements are not guaranteeing future performance and are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and assumptions which might cause the actual results, financial condition, performance or achievements of UCB, or industry results, to be materially different from any future results, performance, or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements contained in this document.

Important factors that could result in such differences include but are not limited to: global spread and impacts of wars, pandemics and terrorism, the general geopolitical environment, climate change, changes in general economic, business and competitive conditions, the inability to obtain necessary regulatory approvals or to obtain them on acceptable terms or within expected timing, costs associated with research and development, changes in the prospects for products in the pipeline or under development by UCB, effects of future judicial decisions or governmental investigations, safety, quality, data integrity or manufacturing issues, supply chain disruption and business continuity risks; potential or actual data security and data privacy breaches, or disruptions of our information technology systems, product liability claims, challenges to patent protection for products or product candidates, competition from other products including biosimilars or disruptive technologies/business models, changes in laws or regulations, exchange rate fluctuations, changes or uncertainties in tax laws or the administration of such laws, and hiring, retention and compliance of its employees. There is no guarantee that the product will be successfully further developed or approved, that new product candidates will be discovered or identified in the pipeline, or that new indications for existing products will be developed and approved. Movement from concept to commercial product is uncertain; preclinical results do not guarantee safety and efficacy of product candidates in humans. So far, the complexity of the human body cannot be reproduced in computer models, cell culture systems or animal models. The length of the timing to complete clinical trials and to get regulatory approval for product marketing has varied in the past and UCB expects similar unpredictability going forward. UCB's efforts to acquire other products or companies and to integrate the operations of such acquired companies may not be as successful as UCB may have believed at the moment of acquisition. Also, UCB or others could discover safety, side effects or manufacturing problems with its products and/or devices after they are marketed. The discovery of significant problems with a product similar to one of UCB's products that implicate an entire class of products may have a material adverse effect on sales of the entire class of affected products. Moreover, sales may be impacted by international and domestic trends toward managed care and health care cost containment, including pricing pressure, political and public scrutiny, customer and prescriber patterns or practices, and the reimbursement policies imposed by third-party payers as well as legislation affecting biopharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement activities and outcomes. Finally, a breakdown, cyberattack or information security breach could compromise the confidentiality, integrity and availability of UCB's data and systems.

Given these uncertainties, the public is cautioned not to place any undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are made only as of the date of this document, and do not reflect any potential impacts from the evolving event or risk as mentioned above as well as any other adversity, unless indicated otherwise. The company continues to follow the development diligently to assess the financial significance of these events, as the case may be, to UCB.

UCB expressly disclaims any obligation to update any forward-looking statements in this document, either to confirm the actual results or to report or reflect any change in its forward-looking statements with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based, unless such statement is required pursuant to applicable laws and regulations.

