CE-Ventures Backs Oyster Therapeutics in USD 60 Million Series A Financing

- Oyster raises USD 60 million to advance an oral, brain-penetrant tau degrader towards clinical development for Alzheimer's and other tau-driven neurodegenerative diseases
- Financing supports continued development of Oyster's proprietary SELFTAC® targeted protein degradation platform
- Investment expands CE-Ventures' life sciences portfolio into neuroscience and targeted protein degradation

Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 10 November 2026

CE-Ventures, the corporate venture capital platform of Crescent Enterprises, today announced its investment in Oyster Therapeutics, previously known as Kesmalea Therapeutics, as part of the company's USD 60 million Series A financing. Oyster is a pharmaceutical company developing next-generation targeted protein degraders, with an initial focus on tau-driven neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's.

The financing will support Oyster's next stage of development and advance its lead programme, an oral, brain-penetrant degrader targeting the protein tau, towards clinical development. Abnormal tau accumulation is a defining feature of a group of neurodegenerative diseases known as tauopathies, including Alzheimer's disease.

Oyster's lead candidate is designed to enter the central nervous system and selectively remove pathological forms of tau while preserving healthy tau. By developing the candidate as an oral therapy, the company aims to create a practical treatment approach suitable for diseases affecting large patient populations.

Rob Johnson, Chief Executive Officer of Oyster Therapeutics, said:

"We are delighted to welcome CE-Ventures as an investor and to have their support as we enter this next phase of growth. This financing enables us to accelerate our lead tau degrader towards the clinic while advancing our broader SELFTAC platform, which we believe has the potential to unlock a new generation of medicines for diseases of the central nervous system. We look forward to working with CE-Ventures and our wider investor syndicate as we build a leading company in targeted protein degradation."

Oyster's broader pipeline comprises candidates generated through its proprietary SELFTAC® platform, which is designed to address the size limitations of conventional bifunctional targeted protein degraders. The platform enables smaller components to cross biological membranes before self-assembling into bifunctional degraders, with the aim of improving oral bioavailability and central nervous system penetration while retaining the ability to direct the cell's natural protein-disposal machinery towards disease-causing proteins.

Tushar Singhvi, Deputy CEO and Head of Investments at Crescent Enterprises, said:

"CE-Ventures continues to expand its life sciences portfolio by backing differentiated technologies with the potential to address areas of significant unmet medical need. Oyster Therapeutics combines a proprietary platform with a clear therapeutic focus in neurodegenerative disease, where new approaches capable of addressing underlying disease biology are urgently needed."

Oyster has also entered into a sponsored research agreement with Massachusetts General Hospital to access specialist tau biology capabilities, including patient-derived neuronal cell lines and techniques to generate and detect oligomeric tau. The research is being conducted under the supervision of Dr. Catarina Silva, an investigator at the Mass General Brigham Neuroscience Institute, Assistant Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School and a leading tau researcher.

Dr. Damir Illich, VP, Life Sciences at CE-Ventures, added:

"Oyster's SELFTAC® platform addresses a key challenge in targeted protein degradation by aiming to combine the power of bifunctional degraders with properties that support brain penetration and oral delivery. Its lead tau programme gives the company a differentiated approach

in neurodegenerative disease, supported by strong scientific expertise and a path towards clinical development."
CE-Ventures' life sciences portfolio spans drug discovery, genetic medicine and targeted therapeutics. Oyster Therapeutics adds neuroscience and targeted protein degradation to that mix, further broadening the therapeutic technologies represented across the portfolio.

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About CE-Ventures

CE-Ventures is the corporate venture capital platform of Crescent Enterprises and invests in transformative businesses across industries, including consumer, deep-tech and biotech. CE-Ventures backs visionary entrepreneurs by providing capital, resources and a global network to build and scale exceptional businesses that drive long-term value.

www.crescententerprises.com/ce-ventures

About Crescent Enterprises

Crescent Enterprises is a multinational company based in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) with strategic investments across sectors. Established in 2007, the business comprises a diversified group of 69 subsidiaries, affiliates, and investments across 24 countries, and employs more than 1,500 people.

The corporate structure has four platforms: CE-Operates, CE-Invests, CE-Ventures, and CE-Creates. The platforms span various business sectors, including ports, logistics, food and beverages, healthcare, life sciences, and business aviation. They also include business verticals, such as private equity, venture capital, and business incubation.

Crescent Enterprises is a subsidiary of Crescent Group, a family-owned business shaping the MENA region's economy for over 50 years.

www.crescententerprises.com

About Oyster Therapeutics

Oyster is a pharmaceutical company developing next-generation targeted protein degraders with an initial focus on neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's. Oyster's proprietary SELFTAC® platform is designed to solve the fundamental size limitations of many conventional degraders by transforming them into small molecules. This breakthrough is intended to enable routine oral bioavailability and central nervous system (CNS) penetration, significantly expanding the therapeutic potential of the class. Oyster is based in London, UK. For more information, visit www.oyster-tx.com.

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