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- **04.06.23 - Peptide manufacturer Mytide Therapeutics names Martina Diekmann as CEO ([endpts](#))**
 - Massachusetts-based peptide manufacturer Mytide Therapeutics has named a member of its advisory board, Martina Diekmann, as its new CEO. Diekmann will be taking over for Mytide's founder Dale Thomas, who has served as CEO since 2018. Thomas will move to the chief technology officer spot, a release said. Diekmann joined the advisory board in 2022 and has previously served as a CEO of peptide CRO and CDMO Vivitide. According to her LinkedIn profile, she also held several management roles at companies such as Bachem and Solvias. Mytide raised \$7 million in a Series A round last year to advance its platform, a portable peptide manufacturer that promises to produce natural and non-natural peptides around 30 times faster than the standard processes. Diekmann said that Mytide is planning to move outside of downtown Boston into a 10,000-square-foot production space in Waltham, MA. This new space can accommodate eight of its peptide manufacturing machines and enable a scale-up of the business. Diekmann said she expects the headcount, which sits at around 20 employees, to double in the next two years. She also added that she expects the new facility to be at full capacity in that time.
- **04.06.23 - Tim Walbert Joins Mirum Pharmaceuticals' Board of Directors ([PR](#))**
 - Tim Walbert joins Mirum's board following a 15-year tenure as president, chief executive officer, and chairman of the board of Horizon Therapeutics, which he built from inception to a leading rare disease company. Horizon recently announced its intent to be acquired by Amgen. Before joining Horizon, he served as president, chief executive officer and a director of IDM Pharma Inc., a public biotechnology company which was acquired by Takeda America Holdings Inc. in June 2009. Before IDM Pharma, Mr. Walbert served as executive vice president, commercial operations at NeoPharm Inc., a public biotechnology company. From 2001 to 2005, he served as divisional vice president and general manager, immunology, at Abbott, now AbbVie, leading the global development and launch of the multi-indication biologic HUMIRA, and served as divisional vice president, global cardiovascular strategy. From 1998 to 2001, Mr. Walbert served as director, CELEBREX North America, and arthritis team leader, Asia Pacific, Latin America and Canada, at G.D. Searle & Company. From 1991 to 1998, he also held sales and marketing roles with increasing responsibility at G.D. Searle, Merck & Co. Inc. and Wyeth.
- **04.06.23 - Ex-CinCor CEO Marc de Garidel lands at Abivax after negotiating \$1.8B cash sale ([endpts](#))**
 - Three months after selling CinCor and its hypertension drug to AstraZeneca for up to \$1.8 billion in cash, Marc de Garidel is back in a new CEO role. As Abivax's new chief, de Garidel succeeds the company's founder, Hartmut Ehrlich, who's set to retire after a 10-year run capped by steering Abivax to a Phase III trial. The CinCor deal stirred up some buzz at the JP Morgan conference in San Francisco, as many held it up as a sign of M&A activity amid a downcycle for biotech investment. It marked the second major deal in de Garidel's career, having sold Corvidia Therapeutics to Novo Nordisk for \$725 million upfront in 2020. Both of those deals were heavily back-ended, with contingent payments that could swell the buyout value to \$1.8 billion in the case of CinCor (although, as SEC filings revealed, it could've gone even higher) and \$2.1 billion for Corvidia. They were also both developing therapies for cardiorenal diseases — compounds that were picked up from the shelves of Big Pharma.
- **04.06.23 - Ora, Inc. Appoints Paul Colvin as Chief Operating Officer ([PR](#))**
 - Ora, Inc., the world's leading Clinical Research Organization (CRO) for ophthalmology pharmaceutical and device development, announced today that Paul Colvin has been appointed COO. An experienced CRO leader, Paul will report directly to Chairman & CEO, Stuart Abelson. With over 30 years of experience building and leading global teams in both pharmaceuticals and pharma services, Paul began his career as a pharmacist and then spent 14 years with Eli Lilly in increasing roles of responsibility in the US, Europe, and Asia. Recruited by PPD, he spent 12 years leading their clinical development business. In 2018 he joined Syneos Health as President of clinical development solutions and was later promoted to Chief Business Officer in 2021.
- **04.05.23 - Surrozen Strengthens Board of Directors with the Appointment of Eric Bjerkholt ([PR](#))**
 - Surrozen, is a company pioneering targeted therapeutics that selectively activate the Wnt pathway for tissue repair and regeneration, He most recently served as CFO of Aimmune Therapeutics, Inc. overseeing the financial reporting, budgeting, internal controls, investor relations, business development, facilities and information technology functions and led the acquisition of Aimmune by Nestle Health Science for \$2.6 billion. He also spent 13 years at Sunesis Pharmaceuticals, Inc., where in addition to CFO, he served in various capacities, including Executive Vice President of Corporate Development and Finance, Corporate Secretary and Chief Compliance Officer. Previously, Mr. Bjerkholt held senior executive finance roles at IntraBiotics Pharmaceuticals, Inc, LifeSpring Nutrition, Inc. and Age Wave, LLC and spent seven years in healthcare investment banking at J.P. Morgan & Company, Inc. He is currently a member of the board of directors and chair of the Audit Committee of CalciMedica, Inc. and member of the board of directors of Cerus Corporation.
- **04.05.23 - Walden Biosciences Promotes Curt Dewan, CFA to CFO ([PR](#))**
 - Walden, is a private, venture-backed biotechnology company focused on transforming the treatment of kidney disease, joined Walden Biosciences in 2021 as Vice President and Head of Finance. Prior to joining Walden, Curt served as a business development executive at Servier Pharmaceuticals and held numerous financial leadership roles of increasing responsibility at Shire (acquired by Takeda), reaching the level of Head of Financial Planning.

- **04.04.23 - Flamingo Therapeutics Appoints Appointment of Andrew E. Denker, MD, PhD, as Chief Medical Officer (PR)**
 - Prior to joining Flamingo, Dr. Denker served as Vice President Early Development at ElevateBio Technologies, where he was responsible for building the clinical development organization, developing clinical strategies for multiple therapeutics and managing clinical trial partnerships. Prior to ElevateBio, Dr. Denker held several positions of increasing responsibility at Alexion Pharmaceuticals, including Vice President, Clinical Development Services, where he led global teams for multiple ULTOMIRIS® development programs. Previously, he held several positions at Merck Sharp & Dohme, Corp., ultimately serving as Executive Director, Clinical Oncology, where he was the team leader for multiple KEYTRUDA® indications, KEYTRUDA® combination partnerships and next generation early development immune-oncology compounds. He received an A.B from Princeton University, his M.D, Ph.D. from Thomas Jefferson University and completed a General Surgery Internship and post-doctoral research at Washington University School of Medicine. Dr. Denker is an author on over 25 peer-reviewed publications and has contributed to numerous patent applications in the oncology field.
- **04.04.23 - Biogen Appoints Adam Keeney as Head of Corporate Development (PR)**
 - most recently as the Chief Executive Officer of NodThera, a clinical stage biotech company advancing a portfolio of NLRP3 inflammasome inhibitors for the treatment of a broad range of inflammatory diseases. Prior to joining NodThera, Dr. Keeney was at Sanofi where he had responsibility for all of Sanofi Genzyme's business development activities, including early- and late-stage deals across therapeutic areas and modalities, successfully completing several significant transactions. Previously, Dr. Keeney worked at Johnson & Johnson where he held a number of business development roles with increasing responsibility and started his career at H. Lundbeck A/S.
- **04.04.23 - Entrada Therapeutics Appoints Dr. Bernhardt Zeiher to its Board (PR)**
 - Entrada Therapeutics is a biopharmaceutical company aiming to transform the lives of patients by establishing a new class of medicines, Endosomal Escape Vehicle (EEV™)-therapeutics, to engage intracellular targets that have long been considered inaccessible and undruggable. The Company's EEV therapeutics are designed to enable the efficient intracellular delivery of a wide range of therapeutics into a variety of organs and tissues, resulting in an improved therapeutic index. Dr. Zeiher started his career at Astellas in 2010 as Vice President and Therapeutic Area Leader for Inflammation, Immunology and Infectious Diseases. He was promoted to Senior Vice President and Therapeutic Area Head for Immunology, Infectious Diseases and Transplant in 2012. Dr. Zeiher was later named Executive Vice President and Therapeutic Area Head when his responsibilities expanded to include the company's development operations and clinical pharmacology departments. He was promoted to President of Development in 2015, and most recently to Chief Medical Officer in 2018. Prior to joining Astellas, Dr. Zeiher served as Vice President of the Inflammation and Immunology Therapeutic Area at Pfizer and Medical Director for Inflammation and Immunology at Eli Lilly. Throughout his career, he has participated in the development and approval of 15 products across multiple therapeutic areas.
- **04.03.23 - Legend Biotech Establishes Strategic Advisory Board appointments of Michel Vounatsos, former CEO of Biogen Inc., and John Maraganore, PhD, former CEO of Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, as advisors. (SEC)**
 - **Mr. Vounatsos** served as Chief Executive Officer and as a member of the Board of Directors of Biogen Inc. from January 2017 to November 2022, shortly after joining the company as Executive Vice President, Chief Commercial Officer in April 2016. Prior to joining Biogen, Mr. Vounatsos spent twenty years at Merck & Co., Inc., where he held a number of leadership roles in strategy, commercial operations and business development. Most recently, he served as President, Primary Care and Merck Customer Centricity, where he led the company's global primary care business. While at Merck, Mr. Vounatsos also served as President of MSD China and held several commercial leadership positions across Europe. Prior to joining Merck, Mr. Vounatsos held management positions at Ciba-Geigy, a Swiss pharmaceuticals company that eventually formed Novartis through its merger with Sandoz Inc. Mr. Vounatsos currently serves on the Board of PerkinElmer, Inc., where he is a member of the Audit Committee (March 2020-Present) and Chair of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee (Oct.2022-Present). Mr. Vounatsos also serves on the Board of Zai Lab (Jan 2023-Present), where he is Chair of the Commercial Committee and member of the Research and Development Committee. In addition, he is on the Advisory Board of Tsinghua University School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Chair of Supervisory Board of LIRYC, the Electrophysiology and Heart Modeling Institute at the University of Bordeaux.
 - **Dr. Maraganore** served as the founding CEO and Director of Alnylam Pharmaceuticals from 2002-2021, where he led the company through the approval and global commercialization of the first four RNA interference therapeutic medicines. At Alnylam, he developed the company's value strategy, building over \$25 billion in market capitalization throughout his tenure. He remains a member of the Alnylam Scientific Advisory Board. Prior to joining Alnylam, Dr. Maraganore held a number of leadership roles at Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc., across M&A, strategy, and was responsible for the company's oncology, and cardiovascular, inflammatory and metabolic diseases businesses. Before Millennium, Dr. Maraganore spent ten years at Biogen, Inc. in a number of business and clinical roles, where he led the discovery and development of ANGIOMAX® (bivalirudin). Prior to that, he was a scientist at ZymoGenetics, Inc. and the Upjohn Company. Currently, Dr. Maraganore serves as a Venture Partner at Arch Venture Partners, a Venture Advisor at Atlas Ventures, a Senior Advisor at Blackstone Life Sciences, Executive Partner at RTW Investments, and as an Advisor at M28.

- **04.03.23 - Sight Sciences Appoints Ali Bauerlein as CFO (PR)**
 - Ms. Bauerlein joins Sight Sciences from Inogen, Inc. ("Inogen"), a medical technology company offering innovative respiratory products for use in the homecare setting. Ms. Bauerlein cofounded Inogen in 2001 and served as its Chief Financial Officer from 2009 through 2021. In this role, Ms. Bauerlein oversaw the global finance and accounting functions, including revenue management, financial planning and analysis, strategic and tactical cost analysis and forecasting, treasury, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") reporting, investor relations, business development, risk management, tax, and treasury functions, as Inogen scaled from start-up operations to over \$350 million in annual sales. Ms. Bauerlein has served as a member of the board of directors of Pear Therapeutics, Inc. (Nasdaq: PEAR) ("Pear"), a software-based digital therapeutics company, since December 2021, and as a member of the board of directors of Gelesis Holdings, Inc. (NYSE: GLS) ("Gelesis"), a biotherapeutics company, since January 2022. She serves as chair of the Audit Committees of both Pear and Gelesis. Ms. Bauerlein has also served as a member of the board of directors of Koya Medical, Inc., a private company, since January 2021. Ms. Bauerlein received a B.A. in economics/mathematics with high honors from the University of California, Santa Barbara.
- **04.03.23 - Heron Therapeutics Appoints Craig Collard as new CEO and Adam Morgan as Chairman of the Board**
 - **Mr. Collard** most recently served as the Chief Executive Officer of Veloxis Pharmaceuticals before it was acquired by Asahi Kasei Corp, a transplant-focused pharmaceutical company with its principal office in Cary, North Carolina, from 2015 to December 2021, and remains on the Veloxis board of advisors. Prior to joining Veloxis, Mr. Collard served as the CEO and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Cornerstone Therapeutics, Inc., a pharmaceutical company ("Cornerstone"), from 2011 until it was acquired by Chiesi Farmaceutici S.p.A. in 2014. Mr. Collard also served as Cornerstone's Interim Chief Financial Officer, from 2010 to 2011, and as its President, from 2008 to 2011. Mr. Collard served as the Founder, President and Chief Executive Officer of Cornerstone BioPharma Inc. (formerly Cornerstone BioPharma Holdings, Ltd.), a pharmaceutical company, and as a member of its board of directors, from 2004 to 2008. Prior to that, Mr. Collard served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Carolina Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a specialty pharmaceutical company that he founded in 2003. Mr. Collard currently serves on the board of directors of TerrAscend Corp., a North American cannabis operator based in Mississauga, Canada, since December 2018. Mr. Collard previously served as a member of the board of directors of Sierra Oncology, Inc., a San Mateo, California-based late-stage biopharmaceutical company acquired by GlaxoSmithKline plc, from May 2020 to July 2022. He also served as Chairman of Opiant Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a specialty pharmaceutical company developing therapies to treat substance and use disorders and drug overdose since October 2018 until being acquired by Indivior on March 1, 2023. Mr. Collard holds a B.S. in Engineering from the Southern College of Technology (now Southern Polytechnic State University).
 - **Mr. Morgan** currently serves as the Chief Investment Officer of Velan Capital Investment Management LP, a healthcare-dedicated investment firm based in Alpharetta, Georgia. Mr. Morgan also currently serves on the board of directors of Alimera Sciences, Inc., where he serves as a director and member of the company's Compensation Committee, and Health Outlook Corporation, a privately-held developer of predictive healthcare technology and service based in New York, New York, where he serves as a director and chair of the company's audit committee. Previously, Mr. Morgan served as Senior Analyst at Broadfin Capital, LLC, a healthcare dedicated investment firm based in New York, New York, where he covered the Biotech and Pharmaceutical sectors, from February 2018 to June 2020. Prior to that, Mr. Morgan served as Senior Analyst at Iguana Healthcare Partners LLC, a healthcare-dedicated investment firm based in New York, New York, where he covered Medical Devices and Specialty Pharmaceuticals, from 2015 to January 2018. Mr. Morgan also served as an Analyst at Pura Vida Investments, LLC, a healthcare-focused investment firm, where he covered global Medical Devices, from 2014 to 2015. Earlier in his career, Mr. Morgan served as a Research Associate at Cowen and Company (a subsidiary of Cowen Inc.), a financial services company, on the firm's Medical Supplies and Devices team, from January 2014 to June 2014. Mr. Morgan received his B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Minnesota and his MBA from the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota
- **04.03.23 - Bicycle Therapeutics Appointments Santiago Arroyo, M.D., Ph.D., appointed Chief Development Officer, and Jennifer Perry, Pharm.D., promoted to SVP, Commercial**
 - Bicycle Therapeutics is a biotechnology company pioneering a new and differentiated class of therapeutics based on its proprietary bicyclic peptide (Bicycle®) technology. **Dr. Arroyo** was previously Chief Medical Officer at Momenta Pharmaceuticals, which was acquired by Johnson & Johnson in 2020. Dr. Arroyo will be responsible for overseeing all aspects of the pipeline as it continues to expand and advance and as the company prepares to transition into late-stage clinical development. Ms. Perry will be responsible for establishing and growing the commercial organization. **Ms. Perry** experience spans commercial and medical roles with a focus on go-to-market strategies for launching oncology medicines at GSK, Tesaro, TG Therapeutics and Pharmacyclics. Most recently, she built and led U.S. oncology sales teams for hematology and solid tumors at TG Therapeutics and at GSK/Tesaro with responsibility for leading the customer-selling strategy and driving the achievement of U.S. sales targets.