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Exscientia inks Ã¢â??Â¬37m contract with GSK

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GlaxoSmithKline has secured access to Ex Scientia Ltd (Exscientia)'s artificial intelligence (AI)-driven drug discovery platform.

GSK said in a statement that, "It will nominate up to 10 targets for small molecule discovery by Exscienta's platform, which identifies mono- and bispecific small molecule drugs by phenotypic and high content screening and uses artificial intelligence-driven algorithms to design novel molecules"

According to the agreement, GSK will pay all research costs. Additionally, Exscienta can receive up to £33m (€37m) in milestone payments for lead discovery and preclinical development. No further financial details have been disclosed.

According to Andrew Hopkins, CEO, Exscienta's , "The deal with GSK provides further validation of our AI-driven platform and its potential to accelerate the discovery of novel, high-quality drug candidates. Applying our approach to client discovery projects has already delivered candidate-quality molecules in roughly one-quarter of the time, and at one-quarter of the cost of traditional approaches. Our intention therefore is to apply these capabilities to projects selected by GSK."