

Company Name: Trojan Cells Therapeutics

CEO Name: Ram Waisbourd

Executive Summary

A novel cell therapy modality. Trojan Cells are immune cells that can “sense” the presence of a disease signal with exceptional precision and initiate the production of therapeutics into the disease tissue. The technology was developed at the lab of Prof. Ido Amit at the Weizmann Institute. It is currently being applied in three areas: oncology, neurodegeneration, and autoimmunity.

Business Strategy

The technology is broadly applicable across multiple disease areas. The company intends to develop a broad pipeline of Trojan Cells. Some pipeline products will be developed internally while others will be developed in collaboration with pharma partners.

Core Technology

Proprietary technology is used to unlock the internal regulatory machinery used by immune cells to “sense” their environment. This knowledge is used to construct genomic sensing circuits that are activated only in the presence of a unique disease signal. This in turn initiates the production of therapeutics. In essence, Trojan Cells are “drug-factory in a cell” with a high-precision on/off switch.

Product Profile

The most advanced Trojan Cell program is in oncology. This program involves Trojan monocytes that penetrate solid tumors, are activated by sensing the immunosuppressive TME, and trigger the production of highly potent cytokines into the tumor. This program recently achieved in vivo POC: specific intra-tumoral cargo production and sustained inhibition of tumor growth were both demonstrated in mice.

What's Next

Raising a seed round of \$8-10M to form a company around the technology and achieve critical value inflection points within 18 months including: (1) nomination of lead candidate in oncology and (2) formation of pharma partnership in neurodegeneration / autoimmunity.

Bio of Ram Waisbourd (presenter)

Ram is an executive and entrepreneur with over 20 years of experience in pharma and biotech. Ram co-founded 89bio in 2018 and served as the company’s COO and CBO for over 4 years. 89bio went public 1.5 years from formation (NASDAQ: ETNB) and has raised to date >\$800M. Previously, Ram spent a decade at Teva Pharmaceuticals, where he was a member of the executive leadership of Global Innovative R&D, responsible for R&D strategy, portfolio, and partnerships. Prior to Teva, Ram spent 6 years in Boston as Vice President of Business Development of XTL Biopharmaceuticals (NASDAQ: XTLB). Ram has an B.Sc. in Economics from the Wharton School and M.B.A from Tel Aviv University.