Novartis acquires Kedalion Therapeutics and its innovative ocular delivery platform that could transform patient experience

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- *Novartis acquires AcuStream™ platform, a novel topical ocular delivery device designed to facilitate dosing precision with the potential to support the delivery of front-of-eye therapies and help patient comfort during therapy administration*[1-3]
- *Acquisition underscores Novartis commitment to deliver innovative, customer- and patient-centric ophthalmic advancements for a range of eye conditions*

East Hanover, N.J., June 30, 2022 — Novartis today announced that it has acquired Kedalion Therapeutics and its AcuStream™ technology, an innovative device that may have the potential to facilitate precise dosing and accurate delivery of certain topical ophthalmic medications to the eye[1,2]. The acquisition enhances the Novartis ophthalmics portfolio, advancing efforts to investigate transformative ophthalmic methods to address unmet patient needs in front-of-eye conditions.

“The acquisition of Kedalion Therapeutics delivers on our commitment to reimagine medicine by potentially enhancing the delivery and patient experience with our medicines,” said Jill Hopkins, SVP and Global Development Unit Head, Ophthalmology, Novartis. “We look forward to exploring how AcuStream can advance our approved and investigational front-of-eye therapies and optimize outcomes for patients.”

The AcuStream platform is a preservative-free, electromechanical topical ocular delivery device that may facilitate precise dosing and accurate delivery, potentially helping patients’ experience[1-5].

Presently, Novartis intends to develop the AcuStream technology for potential use with its existing and future front-of-eye therapies, which could include Xiidra® (lifitegrast ophthalmic solution) 5%, a first-in-class prescription LFA 1 antagonist for the treatment of dry eye disease[6,7].

Kedalion Therapeutics is a clinical-stage, venture-funded ophthalmic drug company based in Menlo Park, California. In November 2021, Kedalion Therapeutics announced the completion of its Series B financing led by Novartis, which included an exclusive option to acquire the company and its AcuStream technology.

Xiidra Indication
Xiidra (lifitegrast ophthalmic solution) 5% is indicated for the treatment of signs and symptoms of dry eye disease.

Xiidra Important Safety Information
Xiidra is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to lifitegrast or to any of the other ingredients.

In clinical trials, the most common adverse reactions reported in 5-25% of patients were instillation site irritation, dysgeusia and reduced visual acuity. Other adverse reactions reported in 1% to 5% of the patients were blurred vision, conjunctival hyperemia, eye irritation, headache, increased lacrimation, eye discharge,

eye discomfort, eye pruritus and sinusitis.

To avoid the potential for eye injury or contamination of the solution, patients should not touch the tip of the single-use container to their eye or to any surface. Contact lenses should be removed prior to the administration of Xiidra and may be reinserted 15 minutes following administration.

Safety and efficacy in pediatric patients below the age of 17 years have not been established.

For additional safety information, visit Xiidra.com for Full Prescribing Information.

About Novartis in Ophthalmology
At Novartis, our mission is to discover new ways to improve and extend people's lives. In ophthalmology, we develop and deliver life-changing medicines and therapies for diseases and conditions from front to back of the eye, enabled by data and transformative technologies. Our ophthalmic solutions reach more than 150M people per year.

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About Novartis
Located in East Hanover, NJ Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation – an affiliate of Novartis – is reimagining medicine to improve and extend people’s lives. As a leading global medicines company, we use innovative science and digital technologies to create transformative treatments in areas of great medical need. In our quest to find new medicines, we consistently rank among the world’s top companies investing in research and development. Novartis employs nearly 15,000 people in the United States. For more information, please visit

https://www.novartis.us.

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