



## Charles River Announces Expansion of In Vitro Oncology Services

October 26, 2017

*Partnership with InSphero provides additional 3D solutions*

WILMINGTON, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct. 26, 2017-- Charles River Laboratories International, Inc. (NYSE: CRL) today announced its partnership with InSphero AG, a leading supplier of 3D solutions for *in vitro* drug discovery and development.

This press release features multimedia. View the full release here: <http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20171026005121/en/>

Through this partnership, Charles River will license its collection of patient-derived xenograft (PDX) tumors to InSphero. Additionally, Charles River will leverage InSphero's proprietary 3D cell culture technology to further extend and complement its pre-clinical services, using *in vitro* 3D InSight™ Tumor Microtissues derived from its existing PDX collection.

"Over the past year, we have seen an increased demand from our oncology clients for enhanced speed and efficiency in early drug discovery," said Birgit Girshick, Corporate Senior Vice President, Global Discovery Services at Charles River. "*In vitro* discovery platforms offer a strong solution, and our partnership with InSphero significantly bolsters our capabilities in this field."

*In vitro* 3D solutions enable the evaluation of a compound's potency compared to standard-of-care drugs. This *in vitro* testing provides for identification of the most promising drug candidates, tumor histotypes and molecular subtypes. Data collected in these tests can then be used to select PDX models for subsequent *in vivo* efficacy tests. The data can also be used to run systematic combination therapy studies over a range of concentrations and to correlate the tumor response with molecular data.

"Licensing Charles River's robust library of PDX tumor models significantly expands our current disease model portfolio in diabetes and liver fibrosis," said Jan Lichtenberg, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder at InSphero. "The combination of their extensive background in PDX tumors, combined with our proprietary and industry-validated 3D cell culture technology, will help pave the way for future breakthroughs. Expanding our 3D InSight™ Discovery Platform to Charles River's PDX models will offer scalability, speed and unmet biological relevance *in vitro*."

### Highlighting Scientific Excellence

At this week's AACR-NCI-EORTC [International Conference on Molecular Targets and Cancer Therapeutics: Discovery, Biology, and Clinical Applications](#), the premier international meeting featuring novel cancer therapeutics, Charles River is presenting two posters showcasing its PDX research, including:

- **Establishment and Characterization of a Melanoma Patient-Derived Xenograft Model Comprising Three Different Sublines with Distinct Biological Features** (Presented: Saturday, October 28, 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. EST)
- **Targeting the WNT-Pathway in 3D-Cultured *In Vitro* PDX Models for Pancreas Cancer** (Presented: Saturday, October 28, 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. EST)

Reprints of each poster are available at Charles River's booth (#207) during the conference and oncology experts are available for meetings with those interested in discussing research and drug discovery.

To learn more about Charles River's oncology research capabilities, visit [www.criver.com](http://www.criver.com).

### About InSphero

InSphero is the partner of choice for leading pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies to bring safer, more effective drugs to market faster through its robust and highly physiologically relevant suite of 3D InSight™ Microtissues and Services. InSphero patent-pending technologies and methods enable large-scale, reproducible production of scaffold-free 3D microtissues driven solely by cellular self-assembly. InSphero 3D InSight™ Discovery Platforms include assay-ready and custom 3D disease models derived from primary human liver, pancreas, and tumor tissues that provide unrivalled biological insight into liver fibrosis, diabetes, and cancer. InSphero microtissues are thoroughly validated to ensure the highest quality, certified for use in a variety of assays, and shipped globally to customers in a patented, easy-to-use spheroid-optimized format, or accessible through contract research services. For more information visit [www.insphero.com](http://www.insphero.com).

### About Charles River

Charles River provides essential products and services to help pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, government agencies and leading academic institutions around the globe accelerate their research and drug development efforts. Our dedicated employees are focused on providing clients with exactly what they need to improve and expedite the discovery, early-stage development and safe manufacture of new therapies for the patients who need them. To learn more about our unique portfolio and breadth of services, visit [www.criver.com](http://www.criver.com).

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