



CitraChem, Corp. and Waystone Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Announce Intent to Partner for IBD Drug Development

NORWOOD, MA, April 8, 2025—CitraChem, Corp., inventor of the world’s leading medicinal chemistry platform for producing semi-synthetic phytocannabinoids without agricultural material, announced the signing of a Letter of Intent with Waystone Pharmaceuticals to jointly build a library of new natural product derivatives to target inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD) with the goal of discovering a novel drug candidate.

“When CitraChem revealed the power and scope of its platform to Waystone,” said Jason Kingsbury, PhD, CitraChem’s Chief Scientific Officer, “there was an immediate realization that we could provide a faster path to Waystone’s initial list of cannabinoid variants than other methods they were considering.” Waystone’s plan is to screen each single molecule in the library using a proprietary *in vitro* cell assay that models an inflammatory response in humans.

According to Waystone’s CEO, Jason Poulos, “There are many studies linking the cause of IBD with cannabinoids as a safe and practical solution. We have identified a novel molecule that has demonstrated safety and efficacy in animal models. As we move these molecules into the clinic, we are continuing to understand the key structural components that affect different diseases where the endocannabinoid system has a role in treatment. We use this knowledge as feedback into molecule design for which CitraChem’s processes and expertise will accelerate evaluation of our collection of compounds and generate a pipeline of additional candidates.”

The future partnership will include CitraChem furnishing pure molecules to Waystone for their initial drug discovery as well as manufacturing at scale should a drug candidate move to preclinical and clinical trials.

Waystone is advancing their lead candidates to Phase I studies and validating the mechanism of action (MOA) in animal models. Once Waystone has validated MOA and linked key structural components to therapeutic activity, Waystone will then utilize CitraChem’s proprietary chemical synthesis to create expanded functional libraries for future pipeline development.



About CitraChem Corp.

CitraChem was founded on the patent-pending discoveries of its co-founder and inventor, Jason Kingsbury, PhD. The firm uses concise and highly controllable processes that mimic how Nature constructs single isomer cannabinoids, yielding materials that are identical in form and function to those found in cannabis and hemp plants. By leveraging a chemical synthetic process, beginning with readily available materials, the outcome is a range of ingredients that are ultra-pure, consistent in quality, and cost-efficient for use in consumer products and pharmaceuticals. CitraChem is also attracting custom synthesis partnerships to expand the generality of its platform for accessing novel therapeutic agents.

About Waystone Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Waystone is a pre-clinical pharmaceutical company that is developing a library of small molecule therapeutics that targets the endocannabinoid system (ECS). Waystone's lead indication and candidate targets inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD) and is ready for Phase I studies. Waystone's pre-clinical program targets metabolic disorders with a focus on type 2 diabetes using novel CB1 neutral antagonist alone and in combination with GLP-1 agonists.

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