Company Overview

Grannus Therapeutics is a pre-clinical company focused on developing and commercializing small molecule inhibitors that selectively target individual isoforms of the Hsp90 family of chaperone proteins. By selectively targeting individual isoforms, Grannus has overcome the safety limitations of previous non-isoform selective (pan) inhibitors while delivering strong efficacy results that address current unmet medical need. Grannus's lead program is a first-in-class Hsp90β-selective inhibitor for the treatment of advanced triple negative breast (TNBC) and other solid tumors. The Grannus Team has decades of experience developing and commercializing therapeutics in academia and at leading pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies of various sizes. The company has received ~$700K in Federal and State grants and closed a $1M seed round with private investors in Feb 2022.

Problem or Market Opportunity

Triple negative breast (TNBC) and platinum resistant ovarian cancers (PROC) are both large and growing markets (2028 forecasted market size of $4B and $2B for TNBC and PROC respectively) with significant unmet medical need, especially in late line therapy. Although new product launches are anticipated, forecasts indicate that chemotherapy will maintain a significant market share in late line therapy over the next ten years (>60%). This creates an opportunity to position Hsp90β-selective inhibitors as an attractive option vs chemotherapy alone. There is also potential to expand via other indications, earlier lines of therapy, and/or combination with immunotherapiesThere is also potential to expand via other indications, earlier lines of therapy, and/or combination with immunotherapies. Grannus plans to progress the program through Ph 1 clinical trials, and then enter a co-development deal, license the program, or be acquired by a large pharma/biotech to support approval and commercialization.

Technical & Competitive Advantage

Hsp90 inhibition is a well-known therapeutic approach, with more than 17 Hsp90-targeted drugs investigated in clinical trials, all of which target multiple isoforms with similar affinity (pan-Hsp90 inhibitors). Unfortunately, most have failed in clinical trials due to ocular / cardiac toxicities and dosing / efficacy limitations. Research, pioneered by Grannus co-founders, indicates that the toxicity and dosing / efficacy limitations of previous pan-inhibitors are NOT related to the inhibition of Hsp90β. By selectively inhibiting Hsp90β, Grannus can deliver strong efficacy results without the toxicity and dosing / efficacy limitations of previous pan inhibitors.

Regulatory Strategy & Intellectual Property

The regulatory pathway for small molecule inhibitors in oncology is well established and defined. Based on feedback during Pre-IND meetings, Grannus will explore the potential for regulatory designations such as orphan and breakthrough status as well as potential accelerated approval pathways. Initial assessments performed by the NIH TABA Assessment Program confirm that Grannus has freedom to operate based on a worldwide exclusive license from the University of Notre Dame for a Composition of Matter Patent for Hsp90β-selective inhibitors.

Key Milestones

Q/YYYY	Objective	Milestone Description
Q4 2023	Oral Formulation	Development of an optimized oral formulation suitable for GLP pre-clinical studies
Q3 2024	IND Enabling Studies	Completion of ADME/DMPK and exploratory toxicology studies required for IND filing
Q4 2024	Pre-IND Meeting	Conduct pre-IND meeting with the FDA

Capitalization History

Year	Grant or Equity Type	Description	Amount
2020	Grant	STTR Phase 1 Grant NIH/NCI	$233,195
2021	Grant	Matching grant from Elevate Ventures / Indiana Economic Development Corporation	$100,000
2021	Grant	STTR Phase 1 Grant NIH/NEI	$346,562
2022	Equity	Priced seed round (Pit Road Fund and Angel Investors)	$1,000,000

Current Round, Terms, and Use of Proceeds

Grannus is currently raising a $5M priced Seed-Plus round, and has currently secured commitments of at least $1.5M. Proceeds from this round will be utilized to conduct IND-Enabling studies (including ADME/DMPK and Exploratory Toxicology), develop an optimized oral formulation, scale up and optimize manufacturing processes, and CMC and regulatory activities to support a pre-IND meeting with the FDA.

Key Team Members and Advisors

John Foglesong, MBA | President & CEO

Mr. Foglesong is responsible for day-to-day operations. He is a 20-year industry veteran with deep oncology expertise from his time at Genentech and Atara, where he focused on late-stage development and commercialization of multiple oncology and other biotechnology products.

Dr. Sanket Mishra, PhD | Vice President Preclinical Research and Development

Dr. Mishra leads Grannus scientific activities in collaboration with our Scientific Advisory Board and expert consultants. He is an expert in Hsp90 isoform-selective inhibitors and a co-inventor of the Grannus technologies.

Dr. Brian Blagg, PhD | Consultant & Scientific Advisory Board Chair

Dr. Blagg is an expert consultant and Chair of the Grannus Scientific advisory board and co-inventor of the Grannus technology. He is a world leading expert on isoform-selective inhibitors of the Hsp90 chaparone protein, with over 45 issued patents and 250 publications.

Radyus Research, Inc. | Expert Consultants and R&D Execution Partner

Radyus is Grannus's R&D operating partner supplementing our team and supporting R&D operations. RADYUS's team of 4 expert consultants brings over 75 years of combined work experience providing scientific expertise, strategic guidance, and operational implantation

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