



CANCER PREVENTION & RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

Award ID:
CP130020

Project Title:
Androgen Receptor N-Terminus Blocker Program for Prostate Cancer

Award Mechanism:
Company Relocation

Principal Investigator:
Wood, David

Entity:
ESSA Pharma Inc.

Lay Summary:

ESSA Pharma Inc. (ESSA) intends to treat castrate-resistant prostate cancer (or CRPC). Growth of prostate cancer cells is driven by male hormones. ESSA's drugs block the hormone-fueled growth of prostate cancer tumors by an entirely novel mechanism. Specifically, our drugs covalently block the N-terminus of the androgen receptor, preventing activation of the receptor by any means. Thus our drugs may overcome all of the known mechanisms for hormone-therapy resistance. Our goal is that all men with recurrent prostate cancer will enjoy more months or even years of progression-free lifespan than current therapy offers. ESSA is currently in the clinical candidate selection stage, and expects to commence clinical trials in 2013. Our efforts will contribute meaningfully to the CPRIT mission, by:

- Improving the health of all Texans:
 - if therapy is successful, many Texans will be directly benefitted through increased progression-free lifespan
 - our efforts can increase prostate cancer awareness.
- Bringing more resources to Texas:
 - the IP related to our program will be located in Texas;
- Supplementing CPRIT resources:
 - relocated ESSA personnel will bring significant experience to Texas;
 - expect to hire additional personnel who will be Texas-based.
- Ensuring high awareness of CPRIT:
 - prostate cancer is a very high-profile medical arena, and will attract significant media coverage.