



CELLECTA, INC. to Develop New Approach for Cancer Gene Discovery in Partnership with Roswell Park Cancer Institute and Health Research, Inc.

The goal of Collecta's second project with RPCI is to develop, optimize, and perform high-throughput insertional mutagenesis screens to identify potential cancer drug targets.

Mountain View, CA ([PRWEB](#)) September 16, 2009 -- Collecta, Inc., a biotech contract research company which performs high-throughput (HT) RNAi and peptide genetic screens for novel therapeutic target and drug discovery, announced today that it has been awarded a subcontract to assist the scientists at Roswell Park Cancer Institute and Health Research, Inc. in developing a new technology for the discovery of cancer-related genes using HT insertional mutagenesis.

The Principal Investigator of this NIH-funded study, Dr. Eugene Kandel, states "There are many people who can appreciate new ideas about sophisticated molecular technologies when these are described on paper. There are some people who can implement such ideas in practice. And there are very few who can do it in a way that is robust, reproducible and easy for others to follow. That is why I am very happy to have the scientists of Collecta helping me in the development of the new gene discovery method. These people were behind some of the most innovative techniques that had been popularized by renowned biotech companies, and now I am hoping for the same success for our method as well."

The Founder, CEO, and Scientific Director of Collecta, Dr. Alex Chenchik, says that "Roswell Park Cancer Institute and Health Research, Inc. have both demonstrated a high level of confidence in Collecta with this contract award, and we look forward to combining our efforts to develop a sophisticated and robust technology to accelerate the discovery of cancer-related genes."

About Collecta, Inc.

Collecta was founded in April of 2006 with a mission to develop the most advanced high-throughput (HT) RNAi and peptide screen technologies and their applications for the discovery and functional characterization of novel therapeutic targets and drugs. The privately owned contract research service company is headed by an experienced management and product development team with a good product development track record, a network of outside scientific collaborators, and prior experience in start-up company operations. The team's six years of experience performing [HT RNAi screens](#) with pooled lentiviral shRNA libraries designed for HT sequencing, [HT screening for bioactive peptides](#), HT functional validation of shRNA, stable cell line development, and HT insertional mutagenesis has resulted in some of the most advanced technologies available, developed in collaboration with opinion leaders and with funding from nine NIH SBIR grants. For more information, visit the [Collecta](#) website, call 1-877-938-3910, or email us at [info\(at\)collecta\(dot\)com](mailto:info@collecta.com).

About Roswell Park Cancer Institute

The mission of Roswell Park Cancer Institute (RPCI) is to understand, prevent and cure cancer. RPCI, founded in



1898, was one of the first cancer centers in the country to be named a National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center and remains the only facility with this designation in Upstate New York. The Institute is a member of the prestigious National Comprehensive Cancer Network, an alliance of the nation's leading cancer centers; maintains affiliate sites; and is a partner in national and international collaborative programs. For more information, visit the [Roswell Park Cancer Institute](#) website, call 1-877-ASK-RPCI (1-877-275-7724,) or email [askrpci\(at\)roswellpark\(dot\)org](mailto:askrpci(at)roswellpark(dot)org).

About Health Research, Inc.

Health Research, Incorporated (HRI) is a not-for-profit corporation affiliated with the New York State Department of Health (DOH) and the Roswell Park Cancer Institute (RPCI), a leading cancer research center located in Buffalo, NY. HRI's mission is to assist DOH and RPCI to effectively evaluate, solicit, and administer external financial support for DOH and RPCI projects and to disseminate the benefits of DOH expertise through programs such as technology transfer.

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