

# Almirall and Iktos announce research collaboration in Artificial Intelligence for new drug design

- **Generative modelling artificial intelligence (AI) technology will be used to optimise advanced compounds, to speed up the identification of promising drug candidates for an undisclosed Almirall drug discovery program.**
- **This tackles one of the key challenges in drug design: rapid identification of molecules which simultaneously satisfy multiple bioactivity and drug-like criteria for clinical testing.**
- **Through this collaboration, Almirall will leverage Iktos's AI precision and agility to truly make a difference in patients' lives.**

**Almirall, S.A. (ALM)**, a leading skin-health focused global pharmaceutical company, and **Iktos**, a company specialized in Artificial Intelligence for novel drug design, today announced a collaboration agreement in Artificial Intelligence (AI), where Iktos generative modelling AI technology will be used to design novel optimized compounds, to speed up the identification of promising drug candidates for an undisclosed Almirall drug discovery program(s).

Iktos' AI technology, based on deep generative models, helps bring speed and efficiency to the drug discovery process, by automatically designing virtual novel molecules that have the desirable characteristics of a novel drug candidate. This tackles one of the key challenges in drug design: rapid and iterative identification of molecules which simultaneously validate multiple bioactive attributes and drug-like criteria for clinical testing.

*"This partnership is an example of how we intend to explore the enormous possibilities offered by technology to find new molecules and to speed up clinical development", said **Dr. Bhushan Hardas, Executive Vice President R&D, Chief Scientific Officer of Almirall**. "The health sector lags behind others in the digital world. Almirall wants to be at the forefront of innovation to develop holistic and transversal approaches. Artificial Intelligence will provide Almirall a unique opportunity to combine our proficiency with the preciseness and agility to truly make a difference in patients' lives", he concluded.*

*"We are thrilled to initiate a new research collaboration with Almirall" commented **Yann Gaston-Mathé, President and CEO of Iktos**. "This new collaboration is further testimony to the leadership position that Iktos has developed in the field of AI for de novo drug design, in little more than two years of existence. We are eager to demonstrate to our collaborators the power of Iktos technology to accelerate their research, and to get the opportunity to further improve by confronting our approach to a new use case, consistently with our strategy to prove our value in real-life projects".*

Iktos has recently announced several collaborations with biopharmaceutical companies where Iktos AI technology is used to accelerate the design of promising compounds, and has published, at the EFMC 2018 meeting, an experimental validation of the technology in a real-life drug discovery project. Iktos generative

modelling SaaS software, Makya™, is now available on the market, and Iktos intends to release its retro-synthesis SaaS platform Spaya™ as a beta version, before the end of 2019.

## About Iktos

Incorporated in October 2016, Iktos is a French start-up company specialized in the development of artificial intelligence solutions applied to chemical research, more specifically medicinal chemistry and new drug design. Iktos is developing a proprietary and innovative solution based on deep learning generative models, which enables, using existing data, to design molecules that are optimized in silico to meet all the success criteria of a small molecule discovery project. The use of Iktos technology enables major productivity gains in upstream pharmaceutical R&D. Iktos offers its technology both as professional services and as a SaaS software platform, Makya™.

For more information, please visit [iktos.ai](https://www.iktos.ai)

### Iktos

Yann Gaston-Mathé (CEO)

[contact@iktos.com](mailto:contact@iktos.com)

Phone: (+33) 6 30 07 99 26

## About Almirall

Almirall is a leading skin-health focused global pharmaceutical company that partners with healthcare professionals, applying Science to provide medical solutions to patients and future generations. Our efforts are focused on fighting against skin health diseases and helping people feel and look their best. We support healthcare professionals by continuous improvement, bringing our innovative solutions where they are needed.

The company, founded 75 years ago with headquarters in Barcelona, is listed on the Spanish Stock Exchange (ticker: ALM). Almirall has been key in value creation to society according to its commitment with to major shareholders and through its decision to help others, to understand their challenges and to use Science to provide solutions for real life. Total revenues in 2018 were 811 million euros. More than 1,800 employees are devoted to Science.

For more information, please visit [almirall.com](https://www.almirall.com)

### LLYC

#### Media Contact

Deva Salas

[dsalas@llorenteycuenca.com](mailto:dsalas@llorenteycuenca.com)

Phone: (+34) 915 637 722

### Almirall

#### Corporate Communications contact:

Noel Ortiz

[noel.ortiz@almirall.com](mailto:noel.ortiz@almirall.com)

Phone: (+34) 932 913 000

#### Investors Relations contact:

Pablo Divasson del Fraile

[pablo.divasson@almirall.com](mailto:pablo.divasson@almirall.com)

Phone: (+34) 932 913 087

## Legal warning

This document includes only summary information and is not intended to be exhaustive. The facts, figures and opinions contained in this document, in addition to the historical ones, are "forward-looking statements". These statements are based on the information currently available and the best estimates and assumptions that the Company considers reasonable. These statements involve risks and uncertainties beyond the control of the Company. Therefore, actual results may differ materially from those declared by such forward-looking statements. The Company expressly waives any obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statements, goals or estimates contained in this document to reflect any changes in the assumptions, events or circumstances on which such forward-looking statements are based, unless required by the applicable law.

If you wish to unsubscribe from any Almirall Corporate Communication please contact our Data Protection Officer at the e-mail address: [dpo.global@almirall.com](mailto:dpo.global@almirall.com).

In accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation and the applicable local regulations, we inform you that your personal data is processed by Almirall S.A. with registered address at Ronda del General Mitre 151, -08022-, Barcelona (Spain), acting as Controller in line with the purposes indicated in our Privacy Policy. For further information, you may consult it at <https://www.almirall.com/privacy-policy> or contact our Data Protection Officer at the e-mail address: [dpo.global@almirall.com](mailto:dpo.global@almirall.com). PRNewswire is the Agency that licenses your personal data according to their privacy policy <https://gdpr.cision.com/gdpr>. At any time you can exercise your rights of access, rectification, deletion, objection, portability as well as the limitation of the processing of your data in the terms provided in the current regulations on Data Protection, by addressing the corresponding written request to our postal address (Ronda General Mitre, 151, 08022 Barcelona, Spain). The request to exercise any of your rights must be accompanied by a copy of an official document that identifies you (ID, driver's license or passport). Finally, we inform you that you can contact the Spanish Data Protection Agency and any other competent public bodies for any claim arising from the processing of your personal data.