# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# FORM 8-K

### **CURRENT REPORT**

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

April 23, 2015

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

# **Bellicum Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) 001-36783 (Commission File Number) 20-1450200 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

2130 W. Holcombe Blvd., Ste. 800 Houston, TX (Address of principal executive offices)

77030 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (832) 384-1100

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligations of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

#### Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement

## License Agreement

On April 23, 2015, Bellicum Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (the "Company") and Academisch Ziekenhuis Leiden, also acting under the name Leiden University Medical Centre ("Leiden"), entered into a license agreement (the "Agreement"), pursuant to which Leiden granted to the Company an exclusive, worldwide license to its patent rights covering high affinity T-cell receptors targeting PRAME and POU2AF1 epitopes.

The license granted under the Agreement is subject to certain restrictions and to Leiden's retained right to use the licensed patents solely for academic research and teaching purposes, including research collaborations by Leiden with academic, non-profit research third parties; provided that Leiden provides 30 days advance written notice to the Company of such academic research collaborations.

As consideration for the rights granted to the Company under the Agreement, the Company agreed to pay to Leiden an aggregate of EUR 75,000 in upfront fees within 30 days of the effective date of the Agreement. In addition, the Company agreed to pay to Leiden, beginning on the eighth anniversary of the effective date of the Agreement, annual minimum royalty payments of EUR 30,000. The Company also is required to make milestone payments to Leiden of up to an aggregate of EUR 1,025,000 for each of the first licensed product that is specific to PRAME and to POU2AF1. The Agreement additionally provides that the Company will pay to Leiden a royalty in the low single digits on net sales of products covered by the Agreement. If the Company enters into a sublicensing agreement with a third party related to a product covered by the Agreement, the Company agreed to pay Leiden a percentage ranging in the low double digits on all non-royalty income received from sublicensing revenue directly attributable to the sublicense, dependent on whether the Company is in phase 1/2, phase 2 or phase 3 at the time that the Company enters into any such sublicensing agreement.

Under the Agreement, the Company and Leiden also agreed to enter into a sponsored research agreement, to be separately negotiated, pursuant to which the Company would be required to pay Leiden up to EUR 300,000 over a three-year period during the term of the sponsored research agreement.

The Agreement will expire upon the expiration of the last patent included in the licensed patent rights. The Agreement may be terminated earlier upon mutual written agreement between the Company and Leiden, and at any time by the Company upon six months written notice to Leiden. Leiden may terminate the Agreement in the event of a failure by the Company to pay any amounts due under the Agreement that remains uncured on the date that is 30 days after written notice of such failure. Either party may terminate the Agreement upon a material breach by the other party that remains uncured following 30 days after the date of written notice of such breach or upon certain insolvency events that remain uncured following the date that is 45 days after the date of written notice to a party of such insolvency event.

On April 29, 2015, the Company issued a press release announcing the Agreement. A copy of this press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

## Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit No.	Description	
99.1	Press Release dated April 29, 2015.	

# **SIGNATURES**

Dated: April 29, 2015

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Bellicum Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

By: /s/ Ken Moseley

Senior Vice President and General Counsel

# $Item\ 9.01\ Financial\ Statements\ and\ Exhibits.$

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit No. Description

99.1 Press Release dated April 29, 2015.



# Bellicum Pharmaceuticals Licenses TCR Technology From Leiden University Medical Center

Lead TCR candidate targeting solid tumors to begin clinical studies in 2015

**HOUSTON, TX – April 29, 2015** – Bellicum Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Nasdaq: BLCM), a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company focused on discovering and developing novel cellular immunotherapies, today announced it has entered into a license agreement with Leiden University Medical Center (LUMC), Netherlands, for worldwide rights to develop, manufacture and commercialize high-affinity TCR (T cell receptor) product candidates targeting solid tumors expressing the preferentially-expressed antigen in melanoma, or PRAME.

TCRs are engineered T cells that are activated when in the presence of target antigens in cancer cells. The lead TCRs under this license agreement have been shown to have a high affinity to PRAME, a cancer antigen that is preferentially expressed in melanomas, sarcomas, neuroblastomas and other solid tumors, but generally not expressed in normal tissue.

Bellicum's first TCR product candidate under this agreement, BPX-701, targets PRAME and is expected to enter Phase 1/2 clinical trials before the end of 2015. BPX-701 incorporates Bellicum's proprietary safety mechanism, CaspaCIDe®, for improved control over the cells.

Bellicum also exclusively licensed LUMC's TCR technology targeting POU-2AF1. These TCRs have a high affinity to the B cell transcription factor expression product of POU-2AF1, which is present in primary chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL), acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL), mantle cell lymphoma and multiple myeloma.

"TCRs are demonstrating broad potential for the treatment of solid tumors," said Tom Farrell, President and Chief Executive Officer of Bellicum Pharmaceuticals. "The cancer targets under this license, combined with our CaspaCIDe safety mechanism, form the basis of a growing portfolio of differentiated T cell therapies with the potential to address a wide range of cancers."

# **About Leiden University Medical Center**

As a center of medical innovations the Leiden University Medical Center (LUMC) strives towards an internationally recognized leading role in the improvement of quality of health care. The core businesses of LUMC are patient care, research, education and training. The clinical and laboratory research at the department of Hematology of the LUMC has led to the discovery of TCRs with high specificity for tumor cells that now can be explored in clinical studies. The research of the Department of Hematology aims to translate basic research achievements into clinical applications in the field of hematopoietic stem cell transplantation and immune therapy of cancer. The establishment of the license agreement has been facilitated by knowledge exchange office Luris, on behalf of LUMC.

### **About Bellicum Pharmaceuticals**

Bellicum is a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company focused on discovering and developing novel cellular immunotherapies for various forms of cancer, including hematological cancers and solid tumors, as well as orphan inherited blood disorders. The Company is using its proprietary Chemical Induction of Dimerization, or CID, technology platform to engineer and control components of the immune system in real time. Bellicum is developing next-generation product candidates in some of the most important areas of cellular immunotherapy, including hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, or HSCT, CAR T cell therapy, and dendritic cell vaccines.

\*CaspaCIDe® is a trademark registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

# **Forward-Looking Statement**

This press release contains forward-looking statements for purposes of the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Bellicum may, in some cases, use terms such as "predicts," "believes," "potential," "proposed," "continue," "estimates," "anticipates," "expects," "plans," "intends," "may," "could," "might," "will," "should" or other words that convey uncertainty of future events or outcomes to identify these forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include statements regarding our intentions, beliefs, projections, outlook, analyses or current expectations concerning, among other things: the timing of our clinical trials and of our research and development activities relating to BPX -701 and our expectations regarding our other programs. Various factors may cause differences between Bellicum's expectations and actual results as discussed in greater detail in Bellicum's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including without limitation our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014. Any forward-looking statements that Bellicum makes in this press release speak only as of the date of this press release. Bellicum assumes no obligation to update our forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, after the date of this press release.

#### **CONTACTS**

#### **Investors:**

Alan Musso, CFO Bellicum Pharmaceuticals 832-384-1116

amusso@bellicum.com

or

# Media:

Brad Miles BMC Communications 646-513-3125

bmiles@bmccommunications.com

For contact with the Leiden University Medical Center, contact the press officer at directorate Communication, telephone +31 71 526 8005, e-mail: <a href="mailto:communicatie@lumc.nl">communicatie@lumc.nl</a>.

3