

Sierra Neuropharmaceuticals

Sierra Neuropharmaceuticals, is a startup biopharmaceutical company focused on the development and commercialization of small molecule therapeutic products to treat multiple diseases of the brain for the medically refractory patient. Many of the most effective oral medicines are toxic to the body (and not to the brain) and patients with these diseases are unable to reliably take oral medications because the patients are impaired in mental processing necessary to remember to take medication. Sierra has addressed these problems by reformulating orally administered medications for placement into an implantable pump, for administration into the fluid around the brain, for a platform of diseases including Epilepsy, Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder, Anxiety Disorders and Major Depression.

Implantable pumps for the nervous system have more than 20 years of safety data and physician experience and are being used to treat over 100,000 people today for spinal related diseases of pain and spasticity. Advantages of direct delivery to the CSF include the ability to limit systemic exposure while treating the brain, simplifying compliance because physicians administer one dose into the pump every 90 days at the time of refill, and the ability to administer drugs with greater precision and control (including constant drug dosing). Sierra helps refractory patients with neurologic and psychiatric disorders be treated with medications that are highly effective by utilizing an implantable drug technology to improve the method of dose administration, make the medications less toxic to the body, and improve patient compliance.

The Company was formed in 2005 to develop the intellectual property of its Scientific Founders at the University of Colorado (Daniel Abrams, MD, Raymond Bunch, MD, Tom Anchordoquy, PhD and Karen Stevens, PhD) based on the founders' understanding of neurological and psychiatric diseases, implantable pumps, reformulation pharmaceutical science, and animal models for diseases of the brain. A brain focused reformulation company for development of implantable medications has the advantage of concentrating business expertise within one company in terms of the business needs of reformulation (IP and scientific expertise), clinical neuroscience expertise (familiarity with pumps, neurosurgery and brain diseases), and pharmaceutical drug development and commercialization (FDA, drug development, physician sales and relationship with the pump manufacturer).