



## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **World Economic Forum Names Aura Biosciences a 2010 Technology Pioneer**

*NanoSmart™ drug delivery technology recognized for  
long-term potential impact on business and society*

CAMBRIDGE, MA, December 3, 2009 – Aura Biosciences, Inc., a biotech company focused on the development of nano-enabled drug delivery systems, today announced its selection as a 2010 Technology Pioneer by the World Economic Forum.

Aura Biosciences is developing a novel drug delivery platform, based on nanotechnology, which promises to revolutionize the treatment of cancer. The NanoSmart™ platform enables the targeted delivery of drugs and RNAi directly into tumor cells and specific tissues. This approach maximizes the drug's efficacy, avoids harm to healthy tissue, reduces side effects and increases patient survival rates.

Aura's unique approach first encapsulates the drugs in a patented virus-like shell, a nano-particle that is the right size to move into the diseased tissue. Its targeting technology then locates the tumor cells, permeates them and efficiently releases the drug in the cytoplasm, where it is most critical.

"Aura Biosciences is working hard to make cancer drug therapies and RNAi much more effective by treating only diseased cells," explains Eli de los Pinos, founder and CEO of Aura Biosciences. "This is a giant step towards the improvement of oncology treatments and has a direct impact on survival, as well as on quality of life, for cancer patients. We thank the World Economic Forum for such a distinction."

To be selected as a Technology Pioneer, a company must be involved in the development of a life-changing technology innovation and have the potential for long-term impact on business and society. In addition, it must demonstrate visionary leadership and show all the signs of a long-standing and sustainable market leader – and its technology must be proven.

#### **About Aura Biosciences, Inc.**

Aura Biosciences, Inc. is applying nanotechnology to help fight cancer in the well-studied area of chemotherapeutics and the emerging field of RNAi. Aura combines the expertise of leading European and US research institutions, including the German Cancer Research Center, INSERM, the John Innes Centre, Cancer Research Technology, Queen Mary University of London and the University of York with the flexibility and efficiency of a dedicated team of in-house scientists, deal-makers and world class advisors. The company is located in Cambridge, Massachusetts. For more information, visit [www.aurabiosciences.com](http://www.aurabiosciences.com).

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