

Sigma-Aldrich Life Sciences licenses patents from broad Institute

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Sigma-Aldrich has announced that Sigma Life Science, its innovative biological products and services business, has entered into a non-exclusive agreement for the use of CRISPR/Cas technology covered under patents held by the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard.

Under the agreement, Sigma-Aldrich is able to make, use and distribute the advanced gene editing tools for numerous research applications, including the generation of modified plant and animal models, custom cell line creation and for CRISPR/Cas arrayed and pooled genetic screening.

"This is an important step in our long-running research partnership with the Broad Institute," said Mr Shaf Yousaf, vice president of technology and business development, Sigma-Aldrich. He added, "We share the Broad's passion for leading the way in research with new ideas and tools. Sigma-Aldrich's scientists have been developing genome editing reagents for years, and have been using them in our own labs to make custom cell lines for everything from cancer drug screens to ADME-Tox assays. As both the maker and user of these reagents, Sigma-Aldrich offers a tremendous amount of expertise for guiding our customers."

This agreement enables Sigma-Aldrich to pair its lentiviral manufacturing core competency and genome editing expertise with CRISPR to create the next generation of screening tools: pre-designed or customizable individual lentiviral CRISPR clones and off-the-shelf or custom lentiviral CRISPR pools.

The company is also the exclusive distributor of the Broad Institute's complete Mission shRNA and ORF libraries.