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Vincere Biosciences Receives Funding from The Michael J. Fox Foundation to Accelerate USP30 Inhibitor Program

Cambridge, MA, USA - August 29 2022: **Vincere Biosciences** has been awarded a \$400,000 grant from **The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Disease (MJFF)** - in collaboration with the **University of Pittsburgh** to assess the effects of USP30 inhibitors on mitophagy in Vivo.

Mitochondrial and mitophagy dysfunction is extensively linked with Parkinson's disease, where loss of function mutations in this pathway cause early onset forms of the disease. Vincere's computational models of sporadic Parkinson's patient samples also suggest this pathway is impacted in non-genetic forms of the disease. "MJFF supports varied efforts to accelerate targets and approaches towards an effective therapy and improving the lives of people with Parkinson's disease," said **Dr. Jessica Tome Garcia**, PhD, Associate Director of Research Programs, MJFF. "We are proud to support researchers at Vincere Biosciences to study the effects and potential of inhibitors of USP30 inhibitors as a therapeutic strategy to target mitochondrial dysfunctions in Parkinson's disease."

Vincere has developed potent and selective inhibitors of USP30, a key regulator of mitophagy, with potential to serve as disease modifying medicines. Vincere CEO **Dr. Spring Behrouz PhD** explains, "We are thankful to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for the funding and the shared mission of conquering this devastating disease. Together we can develop therapeutics for over 10 million patients worldwide."

This new project aims to determine whether these small molecules can successfully enhance mitophagy under baseline conditions and following exposure to mitochondrial insult in the brain. Funding from this grant will support the establishment of new colonies of Mito-QC and Mt-Keima transgenic mice that will aid in determining target engagement in the midbrain and continue the

expansion of Vincere's mitophagy platform. The work also includes collaboration and use of specialized models established at University of Pittsburgh.

"I am so pleased that MJFF also recognizes the importance of developing mitophagy-related small molecules as a therapeutic approach to treat Parkinson's patients." Said **Dr. Emily Rocha** PhD, Assistant Professor at University of Pittsburgh. "The potential impact of this line of research may be huge of the Parkinson's disease community".

About Vincere Biosciences Inc: Vincere Biosciences was founded in 2018 and develops therapeutics for neurodegenerative disease empowered by a unique suite of computational tools coupled with traditional biology and drug discovery. Vincere is Latin for "To win," a constant reminder of our mission to conquer age-related decline.

Visit <http://www.vincerebio.com> for more information about Vincere Biosciences.

About The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research: As the world's largest nonprofit funder of Parkinson's research, The Michael J. Fox Foundation is dedicated to accelerating a cure for Parkinson's disease and improved therapies for those living with the condition today. The Foundation pursues its goals through an aggressively funded, highly targeted research program coupled with active global engagement of scientists, Parkinson's patients, business leaders, clinical trial participants, donors and volunteers. In addition to funding \$1.5 billion in research to date, the Foundation has fundamentally altered the trajectory of progress toward a cure. Operating at the hub of worldwide Parkinson's research, the Foundation forges groundbreaking collaborations with industry leaders, academic scientists and government research funders; creates a robust open-access data set and biosample library to speed scientific breakthroughs and treatment with its landmark clinical study, PPMI; increases the flow of participants into Parkinson's disease clinical trials with its online tool, Fox Trial Finder; promotes Parkinson's awareness through high-profile advocacy, events and outreach; and coordinates the grassroots involvement of thousands of Team Fox members around the world. For more information, visit us at www.michaeljfox.org, [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#).