
Thomson Reuters Nominates MacroGenics and Spark Therapeutics for Allicense Breakthrough Alliance Award

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WilmerHale is pleased to congratulate clients MacroGenics Inc. and Spark Therapeutics Inc. for having been selected by Thomson Reuters as nominees for the Allicense Breakthrough Alliance Award 2014—an award that honors the creative partnering efforts of business development licensing and M&A professionals. Thomson Reuters Recap analysts examined hundreds of biopharma deals negotiated in 2014 and used both subjective and objective criteria to identify the top five most innovative M&A and licensing deals.

MacroGenics Inc.

On May 27, 2014, MacroGenics, Inc. (Nasdaq:MGNX), a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on discovering and developing innovative monoclonal antibody-based therapeutics for the treatment of cancer and autoimmune diseases, and Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited jointly announced that they entered into an option agreement for the development and commercialization of MGD010. This product candidate incorporates MacroGenics' proprietary platform for Dual-Affinity Re-Targeting (DART®) to simultaneously engage CD32B and CD79B, which are two B-cell surface proteins. Transactional Department Chair [Steve Singer](#) led the WilmerHale team in representing MacroGenics in this transaction. [Further details can be found on MacroGenics' site.](#)

Spark Therapeutics Inc.

On December 8, 2014, Spark Therapeutics, a clinical-stage gene therapy company developing treatments for debilitating genetic diseases, announced that it had entered into a global collaboration with Pfizer Inc. for the development and commercialization of its proprietary SPK-FIX bio-engineered adeno-associated virus (AAV) vectors for the treatment of hemophilia B. Technology Transactions and Licensing Practice Co-Chair [Steve Barrett](#) led the WilmerHale team on this deal. [Further information on this deal can be found on Spark Therapeutics' site.](#)

The life sciences industry is a significant part of WilmerHale's practice, with more than 100 of its lawyers devoting a significant portion of their practice to this industry. The firm has represented life sciences clients in boardrooms and courtrooms across the United States and Europe for four

decades. As a result of its successful representation of public and private companies, investment banks and venture capitalists in all aspects of the life sciences industry, the firm is ranked among the top five firms in the nation for life sciences work by *Chambers USA* 2014 and was named a "Life Sciences Practice Group of the Year" by *Law360* in 2013.

Winners of the Breakthrough Alliance Award will be announced at the upcoming Allicense 2015 conference that will be held May 5-6, 2015, in San Francisco. The Allicense Conference is the leading event for dealmaking, licensing and business development professionals, and is hosted by Thomson Reuters.

[The voting process on these deals is now open.](#)