



THE SPINOFF PRIZE

A NATURE RESEARCH AWARD IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MERCK

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Nature Research award places ResQ Biotech among the most exciting science-based companies emerging from academic labs

Developing genetically engineered drugs to treat amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and other protein misfolding diseases

Patras Science Park, Patras, Greece | June 30th, 2020.

Today, *Nature* has announced that **ResQ Biotech** has been selected as a “one to watch” firm highlighted for **The Spinoff Prize 2020**, which is organized by Nature Research and Merck KGaA [<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-01904-6>].

For this inaugural Spinoff Prize Award, “*Nature* sought out **the most exciting science-based companies to have emerged from academic labs** in the past three years” in four sectors: Pharmaceuticals, biotechnology and medical technology; Agriculture and food technology; Chemicals and advanced materials; Digital technologies.

ResQ Biotech is recognized for applying synthetic biology methods to increase the effectiveness of early-stage drug discovery for diseases caused by protein misfolding and aggregation, such as Alzheimer's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), systemic amyloidosis and cancer.

As part of this competition, nominees were evaluated on the basis of the quality and originality of the underpinning science, the demonstration of a market opportunity, the significance of the problem that the company hopes its product will address, a clearly articulated business plan, and the quality of the technical and business leadership teams. According to the press release “With the help of a distinguished panel of judges, we selected 44 science-based university spin-offs that we decided held the most promise of significant impact”.

About ResQ Biotech

ResQ Biotech is a spin-off company of the Institute of Chemical Biology of the National Hellenic Research Foundation established in 2019 at the Patras Science Park. It is a platform technology/drug discovery company targeting diseases caused by problematic protein folding and aggregation (Alzheimer's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, cancer, systemic amyloidosis etc.). Its proprietary biotechnological approach uses genetically engineered *E. coli* bacteria to biosynthesize billions of cyclic oligopeptides, an emerging class of therapeutic molecules, and simultaneously screen them to identify inhibitors of pathogenic protein misfolding and aggregation. ResQ Biotech aspires to become a partner of choice for every Pharma & Biotech company that is developing drugs for protein misfolding diseases and looking for new assets to expand their pipelines.



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