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# Soon-Shiong's NantCell hauls in another \$100M for immuno-oncology R&D

September 11, 2015 | By Damian Garde

NantCell, one of billionaire entrepreneur [Patrick Soon-Shiong](#)'s biotech ventures, raised \$100 million in equity cash, moving forward with some in-licensed immuno-oncology treatments.

The company's latest fundraise comes on the heels of a \$75 million round revealed in June, each coming from a single, undisclosed investor. Like all of Soon-Shiong's biotech endeavors, NantCell says little outside of the occasional press release--heavy on the bluster that is its founder's trademark--and the company didn't respond to a request for comment on its \$100 million equity sale.

Unveiled in January, NantCell is an offshoot of Soon-Shiong's NantWorks conglomerate focused on treatments that use the body's natural defenses to fight cancer. The company's first move was paying an undisclosed sum to get its hands on Amgen's ([\\$AMGN](#)) ganitumab,



Patrick Soon-Shiong

a once-failed antibody treatment NantCell believes it can resurrect. In March, the company broadened its pipeline by trading \$110 million in cash and equity for the rights to some immunotherapies from Sorrento Therapeutics ([\\$SRNE](#)), a frequent NantWorks collaborator.

NantCell is among about a dozen companies, most of them oncology biotechs, operating under Soon-Shiong's umbrella. There's NantiBody, a joint venture with Sorrento; NantPharma, at work on a next-generation version of Celgene's ([\\$CELG](#)) Abraxane; NantBioScience, developing nanoparticle cancer treatments; and, most recently, NantKwest ([\\$NK](#)), an immunoncology company that raised more than \$200 million in a July IPO that gave it a roughly \$3 billion valuation.

Meanwhile, Soon-Shiong's biggest deal yet could come in the form of a long-expected IPO for NantHealth, the underpinning of his various biotech ventures and provider of what its founder calls "the Google of genome mapping." Last month, Soon-Shiong invested \$100 million in electronic medical records outfit AllScripts Healthcare in exchange for that company putting \$200 million into NantHealth. The trade gives NantHealth a \$2 billion valuation, and Soon-Shiong says the next step is an IPO.

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