

## PRESS RELEASE



### **Siva Therapeutics Initiates Research Collaboration with SomaLogic Inc.**

BOULDER, COLORADO, March 18, 2014 – Siva Therapeutics (“Siva”) has initiated a research collaboration with SomaLogic, Inc. (Boulder, CO). The initial focus of the collaboration is to determine the ability of SomaLogic’s SOMAmer® (Slow-off Rate Modified Aptamer) reagents to actively target gold nanorods to solid tumors.

The SivaRods™ photothermal therapy system developed by Siva targets tumor tissue via the Enhanced Permeability and Retention (EPR) effect, also referred to as ‘leaky’ tumor vasculature. In some indications, however, it may be advantageous to actively target gold nanorods to tumors using aptamer-based ligands.

The initial phase of the collaboration will be to assess the ability of SOMAmers to target gold nanorods in cell based assays. If successful, this will be followed with an animal study in which the efficacy of SOMAmer-targeted and EPR-targeted SivaRods is compared.

“Biological targeting of SivaRods has the potential to increase the specificity of our photothermal therapy,” said Len Pagliaro, PhD, CEO of Siva. “This collaboration with SomaLogic enables us to evaluate the capabilities of their unique SOMAmers to enhance targeting. Relatively little is known about the dynamics of targeting nanorods with aptamers, and this collaboration promises to shed light on basic science as well as new product potential.”

## **About Siva Therapeutics Inc**



Siva Therapeutics Inc is a biotechnology company that has developed a photothermal cancer therapy which uses heat to irreversibly damage solid tumor tissue. The heat is delivered to tumors by infrared light that is absorbed by gold nanorods ("SivaRods™") and re-emitted as heat. The size, shape, and surface chemistry of the nanorods target the leaky vasculature of solid tumors, and the selective thermal sensitivity of tumor tissue enables the therapy to deliver clean margins. Siva therapy promises to be extremely safe, effective, and competitive in cost, and may provide a synergistic adjunct to targeted drug therapy and other cancer treatments. For more information please visit: [www.sivatherapeutics.com](http://www.sivatherapeutics.com).

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