



From antiquity to the present, plants have been a repository of naturally occurring compounds to treat disease. Yaupon Therapeutics is applying 21st century know-how to plants with known medicinal value to identify valuable medicines that address unmet medical needs. Founded in 2002, Yaupon has four products in development, focusing on diseases of the central nervous system and cancer. Its lead product--lobeline--is being developed for the treatment of methamphetamine addiction

Lobelia inflata



Methamphetamine addiction causes tremendous social, economic and personal costs and is bringing devastation to millions of Americans in both urban centers and the rural heartland. In recent years, the low cost, wide availability and highly addictive nature of methamphetamine have led to a tripling in the number of users, with over a million Americans now estimated to use methamphetamine. Yaupon estimates that the cost to Pennsylvania alone from methamphetamine addiction is approximately \$100 million per year. Since methamphetamine is a powerfully addictive chemical, it is difficult for most users to quit.

Lobeline has been shown to be effective for the treatment of methamphetamine addiction in animal models. It has a long record of safe use in humans for other uses dating back to Native Americans, but is not currently on the market. Funding for the first clinical trial of lobeline for treatment of methamphetamine addiction is being provided by the National Institute of Drug Abuse. If clinical development is successful, lobeline would be the first pharmacological agent approved by the FDA for treating methamphetamine addiction. Yaupon will use its BioAdvance funding to support regulatory and clinical personnel needed to progress the lobeline clinical program.

### Management

**Robert Alonso, CEO and President**, has more than 14 years of experience in large multinationals and start-up biopharmaceutical companies, including Merck, Hoffmann La Roche and Layton BioSciences. He is accomplished in pharmaceutical drug development marketing, raising capital and negotiating deal structures. Mr. Alonso holds a B.S. in finance from Boston College and an M.B.A. from Babson College's F.W. Olin School.

**Peter Crooks, Ph.D., Chief Scientific Officer**, is an internationally-recognized expert in medicinal chemistry with extensive experience in drug discovery and development. He is a full professor and holds an Endowed Chair in the Division of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Kentucky and works part-time with Yaupon. Dr. Crooks has authored over 500 papers and holds more than 70 patents in the area of drug discovery. He is the recipient of numerous awards. Dr. Crooks received his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Manchester, U.K.

**Barry Walker, M.D., F.A.C.P., Vice President, Medical and Scientific Affairs**, is adjunct professor of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and serves part-time at Yaupon. Dr. Walker has 25 years of management experience in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries and was Senior Vice President for Clinical Research and Development at Wyeth-Ayerst. He has authored over 125 publications. Dr. Walker received his B.A. from Yale and his M.D. from Columbia University.

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