

## Utilizing Academic Labs Utilizing Academic Labs

Yaupon Therapeutics ([www.yaupontherapeutics.com](http://www.yaupontherapeutics.com)) seeks out small molecule drugs developed in academic laboratories “which are untapped repositories for drug candidates,” says Robert Alonso, president and CEO of the Radnor-based company.

Yaupon is an American Indian name for tree leaves, and two of The company’s four lead candidates are derived from plants. The lead candidate, Lobeline, obtained from the leaves of lobelia plants, treats metamphetamine addiction by modulating dopamine in the central nervous system to prevent the dopaminergic high induced by metamphetamine. Lobeline is moving into a multi-dosing Phase Ib trial.

Another plant product, nornicotine, comes from tobacco plants and is in preclinical evaluation as a treatment for smoking cessation. The company also will begin Phase II/II trials of Clearazide, a topical drug for cutaneous T-cell lymphoma with Ophan Drug Status.

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