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## Syros Pharmaceuticals Appoints Eric R. Olson, Ph.D. as Chief Scientific Officer

*Dr. Olson's Extensive Experience in Personalized Medicine Will Support Syros' Mission to Lead in Gene Control*

WATERTOWN, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- [Syros Pharmaceuticals](#), a newly launched company harnessing breakthroughs in gene control to revolutionize the treatment of cancer and other diseases, announced today that [Eric R. Olson, Ph.D.](#), has joined the company as its Chief Scientific Officer. Dr. Olson has over 25 years experience in the life sciences industry, most recently as Research Vice President for respiratory diseases at Vertex Pharmaceuticals. During his 12 years at Vertex he led research, development and commercial teams in bringing to patients the first cystic fibrosis (CF) treatment resulting from discovery of the CF gene.

"Eric is of the few people in the biopharma industry who have led programs from conception all the way through development and successful commercialization," said [Nancy Simonian, M.D.](#), Syros's Chief Executive Officer. "The combination of his deep scientific expertise, his understanding for translating science into drugs that actually help people, and his experience creating real value for shareholders is extraordinary. It fits perfectly with Syros' mission."

In addition to his work at Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Dr. Olson has also held positions as the Director of the Antibacterials and Molecular Sciences departments at Warner-Lambert (now Pfizer), as well as a research scientist focused on gene expression systems with The Upjohn Company. Dr. Olson earned his B.S. in microbiology from the University of Minnesota and a Ph.D. in microbiology and immunology from the University of Michigan. He is published in over 40 academic journals.

"Syros Pharmaceuticals' groundbreaking work in gene control and Super-Enhancers has created a unique, state-of-the-art opportunity to develop novel medicines focused on disease dependency genes," said Dr. Olson. "I am excited to lead the scientific efforts at a company conducting this type of innovative research, and look forward to working with Syros' experienced management team and renowned scientific advisory board to develop new breakthrough therapies."

### About Syros Pharmaceuticals

Syros Pharmaceuticals is a life sciences company harnessing breakthroughs in gene control to revolutionize the treatment of cancer and other diseases. Syros' proprietary platform identifies the master switches for disease genes, opening a whole new approach to novel therapeutics. Syros' initial focus is in cancer, but the company platform will also be applicable to other therapeutic areas. The Company's founders are pioneers in gene control research and translation. Co-founded and backed by [Flagship Ventures](#) and [ARCH Venture Partners](#), Syros Pharmaceuticals is located in Watertown, MA. For more information, visit

[www.syros.com](http://www.syros.com).

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