# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## FORM 8-K

**Current Report** Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): January 9, 2017

## ADAPTIMMUNE THERAPEUTICS PLC

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**England and Wales** (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

1-37368 (Commission File Number)

Not Applicable (IRS Employer Identification No.)

101 Park Drive, Milton Park Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 4RY **United Kingdom** 

(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(44) 1235 430000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:		
	Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)	
	Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)	
	Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))	
	Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))	

#### Item 7.01 Other Events.

On January 9, 2017, Adaptimmune Therapeutics plc (the "Company") issued a press release announcing that the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has accepted the Company's investigational new drug (IND) application for autologous genetically modified T-cells expressing an affinity optimized T-cell receptor (TCR) specific for MAGE-A4 in patients with multiple malignant solid tumors. This will be Adaptimmune's third wholly-owned therapeutic candidate to enter clinical trials. The IND is now active. The press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated by reference herein.

On January 9, 2017, the Company issued a press release announcing that GlaxoSmithKline plc (LSE/NYSE: GSK) has nominated a second target, PRAME (preferentially expressed antigen in melanoma), under the strategic collaboration and licensing agreement between the companies. Adaptimmune will be responsible for PRAME preclinical TCR development and delivery of the IND package to GSK. The nomination of a second target meets a milestone set forth in the agreement. The press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.2 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated by reference herein.

On January 9, 2017, the Company issued a press release announcing that Mark E. Dudley, Ph.D. has joined the company as Senior Vice President of Global Bio-Process and Development. The press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.3 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated by reference herein.

The information in Item 7.01 of this Form 8-K (including Exhibits 99.1, 99.2 and 99.3) shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing, regardless of any general incorporation language in any such filing, unless the Company expressly sets forth in such filing that such information is to be considered "filed" or incorporated by reference therein.

#### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits. The following exhibits are furnished as part of this Report on Form 8-K:

Exhibit No.	Description of Exhibit
99.1	Press Release regarding IND for MAGE A-4 dated January 9, 2017.
99.2	Press Release regarding GSK nomination of second target, PRAME, dated January 9, 2017.
99.3	Press Release regarding SVP of Global Bio-Process and Development dated January 9, 2017.
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## **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, hereunto duly authorized.

## ADAPTIMMUNE THERAPEUTICS PLC

Date: January 9, 2017

By:

/s/ Margaret Henry Name: Margaret Henry Title: Corporate Secretary

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## **Exhibit Index**

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99.2	Press Release regarding GSK nomination of second target, PRAME, dated January 9, 2017.
99.3	Press Release regarding SVP of Global Bio-Process and Development, dated January 9, 2017.
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### Adaptimmune Announces FDA Acceptance of IND Application for Affinity Enhanced T-Cell Therapy Targeting MAGE-A4 in Multiple Solid Tumors

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. and OXFORD, UK., January 9, 2017 — Adaptimmune Therapeutics plc (Nasdaq: ADAP), a leader in T-cell therapy to treat cancer, today announced that the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has accepted the Company's investigational new drug (IND) application for autologous genetically modified T-cells expressing an affinity optimized T-cell receptor (TCR) specific for MAGE-A4 in patients with multiple malignant solid tumors. This will be Adaptimmune's third whollyowned therapeutic candidate to enter clinical trials. The IND is now active.

Under this IND, Adaptimmune will initiate a Phase I, open-label, modified 3+3 dose escalation study of autologous T-cells genetically engineered with an affinity optimized MAGE-A4 TCR in HLA\*02 positive patients with inoperable locally advanced or metastatic melanoma, and urothelial, head and neck, ovarian, non-small cell lung, esophageal, and gastric cancers expressing MAGE-A4. Patients will receive preconditioning with modified fludarabine and cyclophosphamide as used in the Company's ongoing synovial sarcoma study. This multi-tumor study will enroll up to 32 patients.

#### **About Adaptimmune**

Adaptimmune is a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company focused on novel cancer immunotherapy products based on its SPEAR® (Specific Peptide Enhanced Affinity Receptor) T-cell platform. Established in 2008, the Company aims to utilize the body's own machinery - the T-cell - to target and destroy cancer cells by using engineered, increased affinity TCRs as a means of strengthening natural patient T-cell responses. Adaptimmune's lead program is a SPEAR T-cell therapy targeting the NY-ESO cancer antigen. Its NY-ESO SPEAR T-cell therapy has demonstrated signs of efficacy and tolerability in Phase 1/2 trials in solid tumors and in hematologic cancer types, including synovial sarcoma and multiple myeloma. Adaptimmune has a strategic collaboration and licensing agreement with GlaxoSmithKline for the development and commercialization of the NY-ESO TCR program. In addition, Adaptimmune has multiple proprietary programs. These include SPEAR T-cell therapies targeting the MAGE-A10, AFP and MAGE-A4 cancer antigens, which all have open INDs. The Company has identified over 25 intracellular target peptides preferentially expressed in cancer cells and is currently progressing 12 through unpartnered research programs. Adaptimmune has over 250 employees and is located in Oxfordshire, U.K. and Philadelphia, USA. For more information: http://www.adaptimmune.com

#### Forward-Looking Statements

This release contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (PSLRA). These forward-looking statements involve certain risks and uncertainties. Such risks and uncertainties could cause our actual results to differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements, and include, without limitation: the success, cost and timing of our product development activities and clinical trials and our ability to successfully advance our TCR therapeutic candidates through the regulatory and commercialization processes. For a further description of the risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed in these forward-looking statements, as well as risks relating to our business in general, we refer you to our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on November 10, 2016, and our other SEC filings. The forward-looking statements contained in this press release speak only as of the date the statements were made and we

do not undertake any obligation to update such forward-looking statements to reflect subsequent events or circumstances.

Adaptimmune Contacts

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#### Adaptimmune confirms GSK Nomination of Second Adaptimmune Target under Strategic Multi-Target Collaboration

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. and OXFORD, UK., January 9, 2017 — Adaptimmune Therapeutics plc (Nasdaq: ADAP), a leader in T-cell therapy to treat cancer, today announced that GlaxoSmithKline plc (LSE/NYSE: GSK) has nominated a second target, PRAME (preferentially expressed antigen in melanoma), under the strategic collaboration and licensing agreement between the companies. Adaptimmune will be responsible for PRAME preclinical TCR development and delivery of the IND package to GSK. The nomination of a second target meets a milestone set forth in the agreement.

Adaptimmune and GSK initially announced their strategic collaboration and licensing agreement in June 2014 for up to five programs, the first being the NY-ESO SPEAR® T-cell therapy program, and the agreement was subsequently expanded in February 2016 to accelerate development of Adaptimmune's NY-ESO SPEAR T-cell therapy toward registration trials in synovial sarcoma. Following the nomination of PRAME as a second target, Adaptimmune will take the program through preclinical testing to IND. GSK retains the right to nominate up to three additional targets, if GSK exercises its option on NY-ESO; however, this excludes targets on which work is already under way, including Adaptimmune's proprietary MAGE-A10, MAGE-A4 and AFP programs.

"The nomination of this next target marks an important step forward for the collaboration," commented Helen Tayton-Martin, Adaptimmune's Chief Operating Officer and responsible for the alliance. "The early clinical results we have seen in synovial sarcoma with our SPEAR T-cell therapy targeting NY-ESO-1, the first target nominated by GSK, have been promising thus far, and we are accelerating that program toward registration studies. The nomination of PRAME as GSK's second target is further validation of our technology, and our goal is to deliver this IND package as expeditiously as possible."

Under the terms of the agreement, the potential development milestones Adaptimmune is eligible to receive solely in relation to the PRAME program could amount to approximately \$300 million, if GSK exercises its option and successfully develops this target in more than one indication and more than one Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA) type. Adaptimmune would also receive tiered sales milestones and mid-single to low double-digit royalties on worldwide net sales.

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#### Adaptimmune Announces New Senior Vice President of Global Bio-Process and Development

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. and OXFORD, UK., January 9, 2017 — Adaptimmune Therapeutics plc (Nasdaq: ADAP), a leader in T-cell therapy to treat cancer, today announced that Mark E. Dudley, Ph.D. has joined the company as Senior Vice President of Global Bio-Process and Development.

Dr. Dudley has been a pioneer in the field of immunotherapy manufacturing, and has developed and implemented innovative earlyprocess design with accompanying analytics for multiple therapies. Prior to joining Adaptimmune, Dr. Dudley was the Director of New Cell Products for Cell and Gene Therapy at Novartis in Cambridge, MA where he served on the technical R&D leadership team, and was responsible for establishing scalable, GMP-compliant production strategies, and facilitating globalization of CAR-T products and platforms. Prior to joining Novartis, Dr. Dudley served as Director of the Cell Production Facility at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in Bethesda, MD where he also led scientific and technical innovation enabling key milestones in immuno-oncology success. Dr. Dudley's work has resulted in more than 100 peer-reviewed publications, and he is co-author on numerous seminal papers including early tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes studies demonstrating that adoptive T-cell transfer has tumor eradicating potential.

"We are delighted to have Dr. Dudley join our Adaptimmune team," said Gwendolyn Binder-Scholl, Ph.D., Adaptimmune's Chief Technology Officer. "Mark is one of the most highly experienced T-cell manufacturing scientists in the world, and he also has hands-on experience with the unique commercial challenges for this emerging therapeutic modality. I look forward to supporting Mark in the planning and execution of his vision for continuous innovation in and delivery of our SPEAR® T-cell therapy manufacture, in clinical development and future commercialization."

Before joining the NIH and subsequently Novartis, Dr. Dudley earned his Ph.D. in Biological Sciences at Stanford University, and had post-doctoral fellowships at The University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA, and at the Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, ME.

Dr. Dudley said: "I am very excited to join Adaptimmune. The Company has already made great progress in establishing a commercial-ready process for SPEAR T-cell manufacturing, and I look forward to working with the team to further enhance efficiencies and drive continuous improvement to meet the needs of our patients."

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