

July 11, 2018

Daniel Goshorn
Investigative Counsel
U.S. Senate Committee on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6200

Dear Mr. Goshorn,

Thank you for your email on July 9, 2018 to our client Yamo Pharmaceuticals. We appreciate the opportunity to respond to your inquiry.

First by way of background, Yamo Pharmaceuticals is developing L1-79, the first therapy observed to reduce the core symptoms of autism. L1-79 is a novel, well-tolerated mechanism that targets the central nervous system and metabolic symptoms of autism.

Childhood autism is more prevalent than childhood cancer, juvenile diabetes, and pediatric acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) combined, with an estimated prevalence of 1.5 million in the United States. Autism also represents a substantial economic burden in both children and adults. The lifetime cost of supporting an individual with autism and intellectual disability is as high as \$2.4 million. Lastly, there are currently no approved medications that address the core symptoms of autism. Autism is a serious disease that represents an area of significant economic burden and unmet medical need.

Yamo has recently completed a Phase II safety study of L1-79 for the treatment of autism and on May 9th, 2018, based on the results of this study, was granted the Fast Track Designation by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Please note that Yamo is currently raising funds to execute an FDA-mandated 250-patient Phase IIb study that is scheduled to commence treating patients in early 2019.

Given the extremely urgent need to identify a treatment for autism and the current media environment surrounding Michael Cohen, we strongly ask for your help and support in making sure that this inquiry does not unjustly complicate or delay our client's core mission – securing regulatory approval for L1-79, a potential treatment for millions of autism patients in United States and around the world.

With this in mind, please see below responses to your questions and statements:

As you note in your email to Chuck Bramlage on Monday July 9, 2018, *"Michael Cohen provided information to and spoke to the Novartis CEO and other Novartis employees in an effort to obtain Novartis backing for Yamo."*

As you know, Michael Cohen had a business relationship with Andrew Intrater, the CEO of Columbus Nova. Mr. Intrater is a minority investor in Hoffman Technologies LLC, the controlling shareholder of Yamo Pharmaceuticals.

Mr. Intrater apprised Mr. Cohen of the Yamo project and asked him if he knew anyone who would be interested in partnering with the company, advocacy groups and/or attract pharmaceutical industry partners. Mr. Cohen provided a Yamo presentation about L1-79 to Novartis' CEO.

Please note that Yamo, as a start-up company developing a treatment for autism, reached out to anyone they thought could be interested in providing support, including 50+ pharmaceutical companies and 200+ individuals and investment companies. In that vein, we wish to note that outreach to Novartis would have occurred with or without any involvement by Michael Cohen.

As you also note in your July 9, 2018 email, "*Columbus Nova, the investment company, provided back office services for Yamo, and several key Columbus Nova executive were also executives at Yamo.*"

Columbus Nova has a Services Agreement between its management company, Renova U.S. Management, and Yamo Pharmaceuticals through which Columbus Nova provides day-to-day finance, accounting and legal support to Yamo, including payment settlement, cash and bank account reconciliation, documentation, record keeping, accounting, bookkeeping, human resource management and legal advisory services. It is important for Yamo, which does not have any product-related income, to partner with someone to provide these back offices services because it allows them to focus all their time, attention, and limited resources on the development, testing, and approval of this promising autism therapy. To this end, Yamo's Chief Financial Officer, Eugene Prahin, is also Chief Operating Office of Columbus Nova.

1. *What was the exact nature of the relationship between Mr. Cohen and Yamo?*
There was no relationship between Mr. Cohen and Yamo.
2. *Was Mr. Cohen formally hired by Yamo pharmaceuticals to represent the company or obtain investments in the company?*
Mr. Cohen was not hired by Yamo.
3. *When did the relationship begin and end?*
There was no relationship between Mr. Cohen and Yamo.
4. *What exact services did Mr. Cohen provide to Yamo?*
Mr. Cohen provided a Yamo presentation about L1-79 to Novartis' CEO for the purpose of determining if Novartis was interested in supporting Yamo's L1-79 development efforts.
5. *Does Yamo have a list of companies and government entities Mr. Cohen contacted on behalf of Yamo? If so, please provide.*
The contact made on behalf of Yamo by Mr. Cohen was with Novartis. To the best of our knowledge, this was the only contact made by Mr. Cohen regarding Yamo.
6. *How much was he paid by Yamo?*
Mr. Cohen was not paid by Yamo.
7. *If there is any written contract between Yamo and Mr. Cohen, please provide a copy of this contract.*
There has never been a contract between Yamo and Mr. Cohen.

Thank you for your attention to this letter. Please don't hesitate to contact me about this matter.

Sincerely,



Alfred E. Mottur