Biokorf LLC co-founders Rodolfo Pinal and Andrew (Drew) Otte started the entrepreneurial phase of their careers with the mentoring and financial support from the Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship. Rodolfo was a Fellow of the Entrepreneurship Leadership Academy (ELA) and Drew was a Fellow of the Purdue Realization and Entrepreneurship Ph.D. and Postdoctoral Program (PREPP).

Biokorf was launched in 2014 to commercialize the 3D IP (3D Integrated Pharmaceuticals) technology. This platform technology was developed for addressing the drug manufacturing needs of patient-centered precision medicine (PCPM). The technology prepares oral dosages forms from prefabricated components, replacing traditional powder compacts. The "pills" are patient-tailored in size and shape, with the precise dose (including personalized drug combinations) and drug release characteristics that the physician prescribes for the individual patient. These dosage forms are integrated systems, assembled from the prefabricated functional layers according to an a priori blueprint design. Each layer performs a specific and predetermined performance or delivery function (taste masking, solubilization, absorption enhancement, pH control, ID/anticounterfeiting, etc.) in the product.

The Biokorf team received financial support from Purdue’s Trask Innovation Fund and from the National Science Foundation to support the commercialization of the technology. The company is engaged in SBIR submissions on applications on specific patient populations receiving drug therapy. Professor Rodolfo Pinal was the recipient of a Discovery Park Fellowship, which resulted in significant advances for the technology. Through collaboration with the Brick Nanotechnology Center and Bindley Biosciences Center in advanced manufacturing and in vivo studies, respectively, Biokorf positioned itself for potential external partnerships. The company is currently engaged in discussions with private sources of funding, focusing on hormone replacement treatment as the first patient-population segment for commercial deployment.

**NEED**

The age of pharmacogenomics has brought an explosion to the scientific understanding of the variability among individuals, opening the door to personalized medicine. Different individuals (patients) handle the same drug differently, such that the traditional one-dose-fits-all approach to drug therapy is becoming obsolete. There is a need for cost-effective drug manufacturing methods with the precision and patient-centered flexibility demanded by personalized medicine.

**INITIATIVE**

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**IMPACT**

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