

## **Appointment of Jon Holmlund, M.D., as Chief Medical Officer and Vice-President of Development to Ascenta Therapeutics**

**SAN DIEGO, CA, April 12, 2004**

Jon T. Holmlund, M.D. has joined Ascenta Therapeutics, Inc., as Chief Medical Officer and Vice-President of Development. Prior to Ascenta, Dr. Holmlund was Vice President of Development at Isis Pharmaceuticals, Inc., where he was in charge of the clinical development organization and responsible for drug development and budgetary and portfolio management across all therapeutic areas, including oncology, rheumatology, inflammatory bowel disease, diabetes, hepatitis, and lipid metabolism. He led the development of five drug candidates in oncology, including one drug that completed Phase III studies. Prior to Isis, Dr. Holmlund was a Senior Investigator in the Cancer Therapy Evaluation and Biological Response Modifiers Programs of the National Cancer Institute (NCI), where he oversaw translational and clinical development of monoclonal antibodies, cytokines, cancer vaccines, and other biologic strategies to treat cancer. He also was a clinical investigator on a number of intramural NCI trials during his tenure there. Dr. Holmlund received his M.D. degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and completed his training in internal medicine and hematology/oncology at George Washington University Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

Link to more detailed bio [here](#).

*Founded in 2003, Ascenta is a privately-held biopharmaceutical company that discovers and develops targeted new medicines for the treatment of cancer, and is headquartered in San Diego, CA. Ascenta's technology is focused on discovering molecules that hit vulnerable targets in endogenous apoptosis pathways and shut down cell growth and proliferation in cancer cells. Ascenta's broad pipeline of compounds is licensed from both the National Institutes of Health and the laboratory of Dr. Shaomeng Wang at the University of Michigan.*