

NEWS | TECHNOLOGY

Insilico Medicine Doses First Patient in Phase III Trial of AI-Discovered IPF Drug Rentosertib

GENESIS-IPF-3 will evaluate once-daily Rentosertib over 52 weeks as Insilico advances its generative AI-discovered therapy toward potential treatment for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.

By **Ankit Kankar** | September 12, 2026



Picture Courtesy | Public Domain

Insilico Medicine ("Insilico," HKEX: 3696), a clinical-stage biotechnology company powered by generative AI, announced that it has dosed the first patient with Rentosertib (known as ISM001-055 / INS018_055) in GENESIS-IPF-3, a Phase III clinical trial (NCT07687459, CTR20262475) at Peking Union Medical College Hospital, while Shanghai Pulmonary Hospital has also enrolled its first patient on the same day.

The Phase III clinical trial is a prospective, multi-center, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group study designed to systematically evaluate the efficacy and safety of once-daily Rentosertib administered over 52 weeks. The study is led by Professor Zuojun Xu of Peking Union Medical College Hospital, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences as the Leading Principal Investigator (Leading PI), with Academician Nanshan Zhong of the Chinese Academy of Engineering,

a renowned expert in respiratory medicine, and President Chang Chen of Shanghai Pulmonary Hospital serving as Co-Leading Principal Investigators (Co-Leading PIs).

As Leading PI of the study, Professor Zuojun Xu from Peking Union Medical College Hospital, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, commented: "TNIK, the target driven by AI, had never previously been linked to fibrosis. This perhaps indicates that AI is carving out a path distinct from traditional research paradigms in target discovery for complex diseases. Dosing the first patient marks another key clinical milestone for Rentosertib; after preliminary findings in the 12 week duration phase IIa study showed promising results, including improvements in lung function among patients with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF). This Phase III study is designed to validate the phase IIa study findings in a larger cohort of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis patients treated for a longer duration of 52 weeks. From initiating Phase III to obtaining final regulatory approval, it will take three to four years under favorable conditions. We look forward to Rentosertib achieving its primary endpoints and successfully securing market approval to benefit IPF patients."

Till today, Insilico has published multiple peer-reviewed papers to document the milestones of Rentosertib along the R&D journey, all the way from target identification to Phase IIa positive results. In 2024, a ***Nature Biotechnology*** publication demonstrated the AI-driven early discovery process of Rentosertib. In 2025, a ***Nature Medicine*** study reported Phase IIa results of Rentosertib, demonstrating a promising dose-dependent efficacy trend. Most recently, in 2026, a ***Nature Biotechnology*** study revealed a consistent reduction in biological age after Rentosertib dosage, across six independent biological aging clocks.

"I believe Rentosertib will be transformative to patient care in the field of IPF, and AI has enabled this breakthrough with higher speed and reduced cost, which could make a lot of difference in the future of drug discovery," said **Carol Satler, MD, PhD, Senior Vice President for Clinical Development, Non-Oncology at Insilico Medicine**. "With the first patient dosed, we hope to see real-world improvements and further validate the favorable findings observed in Phase IIa study, and to witness the rapid translation of a scientific concept into potential patient benefit in record time."

Insilico's dual-purpose therapeutic strategy is also proving its viability as a sustainable commercial model. Recently, Insilico reported total revenue of approximately \$106 million in the first half of 2026, a 287% year-over-year increase, and achieved its first profitable half-year since listing, with an adjusted net profit exceeding \$51 million. This milestone was driven by a series of out-licensing, co-development, and R&D collaborations with global partners, including Eli Lilly, Servier, Takeda, SK

Biopharmaceuticals, Qilu Pharmaceutical, Hygtia Therapeutics, CMS, and Tenacia. As of the latest practicable date, the total contract value of transactions announced by Insilico in 2026 reached approximately \$7.3 billion, pushing the cumulative contract value of its major collaborations since 2021 approximately \$11 billion.

On the AI-driven R&D front, Insilico nominated nine development candidates within nine months of 2026 as of late August, setting a new company record for annual pipeline productivity and achieving eight clinical milestones across its proprietary and co-developed programs. Leading this progress is rentosertib (ISM001-055), the world's first drug candidate discovered and developed using generative AI, which has advanced to a Phase III trial evaluating for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF). In addition, Insilico Medicine launched a comprehensive set of benchmarks that allow foundation models to be evaluated in all tasks needed for drug discovery and launched state of the art (SOTA) foundation models outperforming other models and even internal tools in benchmarks. Using this new capability Insilico hopes to expand and accelerate longevity drug discovery and development both in terms of scale, therapeutic modalities, and indications.

Read online: <https://worldbusinesswatch.com/news/13/31/insilico-medicine-doses-first-patient-in-phase-iii-trial-of-ai-discovered-ipf-drug-rentosertib.html>

© 2026 World Business Watch. All rights reserved.