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Tarsus Completes Acquisition of Alkeus, Adding Phase 3 Stargardt Disease Therapy ALK-001

Deal expands Tarsus' ophthalmology pipeline with a differentiated oral investigational medicine targeting the underlying biology of Stargardt disease, which has no FDA-approved treatment

By **Ankit Kankar** | September 13, 2026



Picture Courtesy | Public Domain

Adds gildeuretinol (ALK-001), a differentiated Phase 3 oral investigational medicine designed to target the underlying biology of Stargardt's disease, a potentially blinding disease with no FDA-approved therapy

Strengthens Tarsus' differentiated pipeline and leadership in eye care

Tarsus Pharmaceuticals, Inc. announced that it has completed its previously announced acquisition of Alkeus Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a privately held retinal disease-focused biotechnology company.

With the completion of the acquisition, Tarsus adds worldwide rights to ALK-001, a new, investigational, late-stage molecular entity designed to reduce the accumulation of toxic dimers while preserving the normal visual cycle. Tarsus believes ALK-001 represents a potential blockbuster opportunity in one of the largest inherited retinal diseases. ALK-001 has received Breakthrough Therapy, Orphan Drug, Fast Track and Rare Pediatric Disease designations from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for Stargardt disease and is currently being evaluated in the global NORTHSTAR Phase 3 trial, with topline data anticipated in 2029.

"Completing the Alkeus acquisition marks an important step forward in our vision to build a leading eye care company," said Bobby Azamian, M.D., Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of Tarsus. "ALK-001 is highly complementary to our core strengths and has the potential to become a foundational medicine for people living with Stargardt disease, a potentially blinding disease with no FDA-approved treatment. With the transaction complete, our focus is on advancing the NORTHSTAR trial and realizing the full potential of this important clinical-stage program."

The acquisition of Alkeus, announced on August 6, 2026, closed following the satisfaction of the customary closing conditions set forth in the definitive merger agreement.

Read online: <https://worldbusinesswatch.com/news/13/46/tarsus-completes-acquisition-of-alkeus-adding-phase-3-stargardt-disease-therapy-alk-001.html>

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