

VoxCell Announces Strategic Partnerships and Opens Growth Funding at Web Summit Lisbon 2025 as Regulators Accelerate Shift Away from Animal Testing

Canadian biotech company secures major collaborations with Altasciences, ValiRx, and BC Cancer as pharmaceutical industry embraces human-relevant drug development models

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VICTORIA, BC, Canada – October 9, 2025 – VoxCell celebrates strategic partnerships with Altasciences, ValiRx, and BC Cancer, alongside the opening of a new growth funding round. These announcements position the company to capitalize on unprecedented regulatory momentum favoring human-relevant drug development platforms.

The partnerships advance VoxCell's technology across multiple therapeutic applications.

- **Altasciences** is integrating VoxCell's vascularized tissue models into its preclinical services portfolio, initially focusing on ocular indications.
- **ValiRx**, in collaboration with **Inaphea Biolabs**, is developing advanced triple-negative breast cancer models using patient-derived cells.
- **BC Cancer** and the **University of Victoria** are partnering on radiation dosage studies, expanding applications into radiation oncology research.

VoxCell is raising fresh capital to support these partnerships, scale manufacturing capacity, and expand its commercial team. The company has attracted notable investors including Draper VC, Providence Health Ventures, Women's Equity Lab, and high-net-worth individuals including Mark Miller of Constellation Software.

The timing of VoxCell's expansion coincides with a fundamental transformation in the regulatory landscape. The FDA Modernization Act 2.0 has eliminated mandatory animal testing requirements, while the FDA-NIH Workshop on Reducing Animal Testing (July 2025) brought regulators and industry together to accelerate New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) adoption.

The federal government is backing this shift with substantial resources. NIH has committed \$87 million to non-animal testing projects, and the FDA's IStand Program has established a regulatory pathway specifically for novel preclinical tools like VoxCell's platforms.

This confluence creates significant market opportunity. Pharmaceutical companies are actively seeking alternatives that address a critical challenge: animal models frequently fail to predict human response, contributing to costly clinical trial failures.

VoxCell's vascularized 3D tissue models directly address this industry need. By replicating the complex vascular microenvironment of human tissues, VoxCell enables studies previously impossible in traditional culture, drug penetration, extravasation, efficacy, and vascular toxicity in a single physiologically relevant system.

"We're not just participating in the NAMs movement; we're helping define its future," said CEO Karolina Valente. "With regulatory barriers removed and government resources allocated, VoxCell is strategically positioned to serve a market in transition."

About VoxCell

VoxCell is a Canadian biotechnology company redefining drug development with high-resolution, vascularized 3D tissue models. By replicating the complex vascular environment of human tissues, VoxCell empowers pharmaceutical companies, CROs, and research institutions to study drug behavior, safety, and efficacy, with unprecedented physiological relevance. With vascular complexity at the core of its innovation, VoxCell delivers human-like models that accelerate therapeutic discovery and bridge the gap between preclinical and clinical phases. Learn more at voxcell.com.

About Web Summit Lisbon

Web Summit, held annually in Lisbon, Portugal, is recognized as Europe's largest technology conference and one of the world's most influential gatherings for innovation and technology. Taking place November 10-13, 2025, at the Altice Arena and FIL Exhibition Center, Web Summit brings together over 70,000 attendees from 160+ countries, including startups, investors, Fortune 500 executives, policymakers, and thought leaders. Featuring more than 1,000 speakers across 20+ content tracks, the four-day event offers unparalleled opportunities for networking, learning, and dealmaking across all sectors of the global technology industry. Since relocating to Lisbon in 2016, Web Summit has established Portugal's capital as a premier destination for technological innovation and entrepreneurship. Learn more at websummit.com.

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