



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Axxam and Fulcrum Therapeutics Initiate a Partnership for the Provision of Drug Discovery Services for Genetic Diseases**

**February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017** - Axxam SpA (Milan/Italy), an innovative Partner Research Organization (iPRO) and leading provider of discovery services has entered into an agreement with Fulcrum Therapeutics Inc., a U.S.-based biotech founded in July 2016 by Third Rock Ventures. Fulcrum Therapeutics is focused on discovering and developing small molecule therapies to unlock gene control and the collaboration will utilize Axxam's world-leading screening platform to identify novel targets for regulating gene expression. The programme will initially focus on genetic diseases where no effective treatment options currently exist.

Under the agreement, Fulcrum Therapeutics has access to the proven expertise of Axxam in assay development and industry-standard high throughput screening. Axxam will utilize its considerable knowledge in cell biology to generate new assay formats for monitoring gene regulation that are amenable to high-throughput screening. These assays will be used to identify novel small molecules with proven interactions with the targets. The alliance builds on Axxam's long history of working with many of the world's most prestigious academic institutions, disease foundations and biotech/pharmaceutical companies.

**Stefan Lohmer, Ph.D., CEO of Axxam, commented:** "We are very pleased to be starting this collaboration with the world-class scientists at Fulcrum Therapeutics, applying our cell-based assay and screening expertise in their mission to develop small molecule therapies that modulate on and off switches of disease genes."

**Robert Gould, Ph.D. President and Chief Executive Officer, Fulcrum Therapeutics, commented:** "Axxam's expertise in cell-based screening and cellular physiology applications is unparalleled. It was a natural decision for Fulcrum to work with Axxam as a long-term partner. With their deep scientific expertise and commitment to assay development, we are confident we will have a productive collaboration."

#### **About Axxam SpA ([www.axxam.com](http://www.axxam.com))**

*Axxam SpA is a privately owned partner research organization and discovery company located at the Science Park Openzone in Bresso (Milan, Italy). The Company is a leading provider of integrated discovery services for the entire Life Sciences industries as: Pharmaceutical, Crop protection, Animal health, Cosmetics and Nutrition. Axxam has a strong expertise across a broad range of discovery disciplines and innovative technologies including: assay development, compound management, HTS, hit identification and hit validation. Axxam is also engaged in developing novel innovative therapies for diseases with a high unmet medical need.*

#### **About Fulcrum Therapeutics ([www.fulcrumtx.com](http://www.fulcrumtx.com))**

*Fulcrum Therapeutics is a biotechnology company developing new medicines to deliver a new future to patients and their families by transforming gene regulation in disease. Fulcrum's therapies are based on modulating gene regulation via control of genetic on and off switches of disease genes. Fulcrum was launched in 2016 by Third Rock Ventures, and is headquartered in Cambridge, Mass.*

**For more information about Fulcrum, visit [fulcrumtx.com](http://fulcrumtx.com) or email [info@fulcrumtx.com](mailto:info@fulcrumtx.com)**

**Contacts:**

**Axxam:**

Sabrina Corazza

[sabrina.corazza.sc@axxam.com](mailto:sabrina.corazza.sc@axxam.com)

+39 02 2105634

**Fulcrum Therapeutics:**

Dan Quinn, Ten Bridge Communications

[dan@tenbridgecommunications.com](mailto:dan@tenbridgecommunications.com)

781-475-7974