

21 May 2026

ASX Announcement

## **Former BioCryst Pharmaceuticals executive Mr Raymond Taylor appointed to drive Galidesivir development**

- **Raymond Taylor has a career that spans over 40 years of experience in developing drugs for unmet needs, rare diseases and antiviral treatments, that has incorporated biodefence and regulatory initiatives**
- **His experience includes 19 years in senior leadership roles with BioCryst Pharmaceuticals, where Galidesivir was originally developed**
- **Mr Taylor brings direct experience with Galidesivir and enhances Island's ability to pursue US Government funding and procurement opportunities**
- **During his tenure, he has led secured and managed US\$490m+ in US Government biodefence funding, including \$125m in US Strategic National Stockpile procurement contracts**
- **Strengthens Island's positioning as one of the few companies globally advancing a broad-spectrum antiviral candidate targeting lethal filoviruses including Marburg and Ebola**
- **Previous studies show Galidesivir delivers:**
  - **94% overall survival rate in Marburg-infected primates compared to 0% survival in placebo group**
  - **100% survival rate in Ebola-infected primates – versus 0% in placebo group**
- **Appointment follows escalating global concern surrounding Ebola and other emerging viral outbreaks, highlighting the strategic importance of Galidesivir and broader biodefence preparedness initiatives**

**MELBOURNE Australia, 21 May 2026:** Australian antiviral drug development company, Island Pharmaceuticals Ltd (**ASX: ILA; Island or the Company**) is pleased to advise it has appointed former BioCryst Pharmaceuticals executive Mr Raymond Taylor as Senior Scientific Fellow to support the advancement of Galidesivir for the treatment of Marburg Virus Disease (MVD) under the US Food & Drug Administration's Animal Rule Pathway, as well as to pursue other potential near-term opportunities in Ebola and Sudan virus.

Mr Taylor brings over 40 years of experience in strategic and operational leadership in drug development, including 19 years with BioCryst Pharmaceuticals, where he held senior scientific and strategic leadership roles associated with antiviral therapeutics and emerging infectious disease programs.

Importantly, Mr Taylor possesses direct historical experience with Galidesivir, Island's broad-spectrum antiviral candidate, which was originally developed by BioCryst for the treatment of multiple high consequence viral pathogens, including Marburg, Ebola, Yellow Fever and Zika (refer ASX announcement: 9 July 2025).

Throughout his tenure at BioCryst, Mr Taylor was involved across multiple areas of antiviral and biodefence development, including clinical strategy, program management, operational leadership and engagement with US Government-



supported medical countermeasure initiatives. His experience spans collaborations involving key biodefence and infectious disease agencies supporting antiviral preparedness and pandemic response activities.

Notably, Mr Taylor led major external partnerships and funding initiatives that secured and managed over US\$490m in US Government funding through agencies including BARDA, NIAID and the CDC. This included US\$125m+ in procurement and stockpiling contracts supporting the US Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), providing him with highly relevant experience across biodefence procurement pathways and medical countermeasure commercialisation initiatives.

Prior to this, Mr Taylor held senior roles with EMD Pharmaceuticals, part of Merck KGaA, AstraZeneca and Accenture.

This appointment materially strengthens Island's scientific and strategic advisory capabilities, prior to the commencement of the Company's planned two-stage Animal Rule development pathway for Galidesivir next quarter, in collaboration with key US biodefence stakeholders, including the US Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID).

As part of his engagement, Mr Taylor will support Island's scientific, regulatory and clinical development initiatives relating to Galidesivir, with a focus on Animal Rule study execution, biodefence engagement and near-term opportunities associated with Ebola and Sudan virus, including potential government funding opportunities and accelerated development programs.

#### **Management commentary:**

**Senior Scientific Fellow, Mr Raymond Taylor said:** *"Having worked closely with Galidesivir during its original development at BioCryst, I have a deep understanding of the antiviral candidate itself and the steps required to successfully advance it through development, regulatory approval and potential government procurement.*

*Importantly, I believe Island is strongly positioned to advance Galidesivir through the FDA Animal Rule pathway, particularly given the Company's growing engagement with key US biodefence stakeholders, its collaboration with USAMRIID and the increasingly urgent global focus on filovirus preparedness.*

*What is particularly compelling about Galidesivir is its potential relevance across multiple high consequence viral threats, including Marburg, Ebola and Sudan virus, at a time when the world continues to face significant preparedness gaps and limited treatment options for emerging outbreaks.*

*I am delighted to have the opportunity to re-engage with the Galidesivir program and support Island as it works to unlock the full potential of this important antiviral candidate, not only to address major unmet medical needs, but also to strengthen global biodefence preparedness and help respond to any public health emergencies before they escalate further."*

**CEO and Managing Director, Dr David Foster said:** *"This appointment represents another major step in strengthening Island's scientific, strategic and biodefence capabilities at a critically important time for global infectious disease preparedness.*

*Importantly, Raymond brings a highly differentiated combination of direct historical experience with Galidesivir, deep antiviral development expertise and extensive understanding of the US biodefence and medical countermeasure ecosystem*



*developed over nearly two decades at BioCryst Pharmaceuticals.*

*His track record securing and managing significant US Government funding initiatives, including Strategic National Stockpile procurement contracts, is particularly relevant as Island advances Galidesivir toward potential FDA approval and broader government procurement opportunities in the near future.*

*With global concern surrounding Ebola and related filoviruses continuing to escalate, we believe Galidesivir represents one of the very few broad-spectrum antiviral candidates globally with the potential to address multiple high consequence viral threats, including Marburg, Ebola and Sudan virus.*

*Importantly, Raymond's historical involvement with the Galidesivir program and broader filovirus preparedness initiatives further strengthens Island's capability to pursue near-term development and funding opportunities associated with these emerging global health threats.*

*As we move toward commencement of our planned Animal Rule studies next quarter, we believe Island is continuing to position itself at the forefront of next-generation antiviral and biodefence preparedness initiatives."*

## **Q&A**

### **Who is Raymond Taylor and why is his appointment significant?**

Mr Taylor is a former senior BioCryst Pharmaceuticals executive with over 40 years drug development of experience which has included extensive experience in antiviral development, biodefence strategy and US Government contracting. His appointment brings deep institutional knowledge of Galidesivir and extensive experience navigating US funding and procurement pathways.

### **What was Mr Taylor's role in the original development of Galidesivir?**

He held senior scientific and strategic leadership roles at BioCryst during the period when Galidesivir was advanced for multiple high-consequence viral threats, including Marburg, Ebola, Yellow Fever, Zika and SARS-CoV2

### **Why is this appointment important for Island?**

Island is preparing to commence its Animal Rule development pathway next quarter, and global concern surrounding Ebola and related filoviruses is rising. Strengthening biodefence expertise at this moment enhances Island's readiness for regulatory, funding and procurement opportunities.

### **How does Mr Taylor's experience support Island's US Government engagement?**

Mr Taylor has secured and managed more than US\$490m in US Government funding through BARDA, NIAID, CDC and other agencies, including over US\$125m in Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) procurement contracts.

### **What is Galidesivir?**



Galidesivir is a clinical-stage, broad-spectrum antiviral candidate with activity across more than 20 RNA viruses, including high-priority threats such as Marburg, Ebola, Sudan virus, Yellow Fever and Zika.

### **Why is the current Ebola Bundibugyo outbreak so concerning, and why are existing US Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Ebola countermeasures not useful for this strain?**

Ebola Bundibugyo is one of the least common and least understood Ebola species, with only a handful of outbreaks ever recorded. Its rarity means there are no approved therapeutics or vaccines specifically targeting this strain. Existing SNS countermeasures, including monoclonal antibody treatments and vaccines developed for Ebola Zaire, are strain-specific and do not provide protection or therapeutic benefit against Bundibugyo. This mismatch leaves a critical preparedness gap, underscoring the urgent global need for broad-spectrum antiviral candidates such as Galidesivir that are being advanced for multiple filoviruses, including Marburg, Ebola and Sudan virus.

### **Should Galidesivir be considered a potential treatment option for Ebola Bundibugyo given its broad-spectrum antiviral profile?**

Galidesivir has been developed and evaluated as a broad-spectrum antiviral candidate with activity across more than 20 RNA viruses, including multiple high-consequence filoviruses such as Marburg, Ebola and Sudan virus. Its development history includes strong survival outcomes in lethal primate models of Marburg and Ebola infection, demonstrating its potential relevance across this viral family. Galidesivir's broad-spectrum profile and its advancement under the FDA Animal Rule pathway position it as one of the few antiviral candidates with the potential to address multiple filovirus threats, including Bundibugyo, where no medical countermeasures currently exist.

### **What animal data support Galidesivir's development for Marburg, Ebola and Sudan virus?**

Publicly available studies have shown highly encouraging results for Galidesivir across multiple filoviruses. In non-human primate models of Marburg virus disease, Galidesivir achieved a 94% survival rate, compared with 0% survival in placebo-treated animals. In Ebola virus studies, Galidesivir demonstrated 100% survival in infected primates, again compared with 0% in placebo controls. For Sudan virus, Galidesivir has shown activity in pre-clinical models, supporting its relevance across this viral family. Collectively, these data highlight Galidesivir as one of the few broad-spectrum antiviral candidates with demonstrated survival benefits in lethal filovirus models, reinforcing its potential importance in global biodefence preparedness.

### **What is the current treatment protocol for patients infected with Ebola Bundibugyo, and why are existing US Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Ebola countermeasures ineffective against this strain?**

Treatment for Ebola Bundibugyo currently relies on supportive care only, including fluid management, electrolyte correction, oxygen support and treatment of secondary complications. There are no approved therapeutics or vaccines for this strain. Existing SNS countermeasures, including monoclonal antibody therapies and vaccines developed for Ebola Zaire, are strain-specific and do not provide protection or therapeutic benefit against Bundibugyo. This creates a significant preparedness gap during the current outbreak and highlights the urgent global need for broad-spectrum antiviral candidates



such as Galidesivir, which is being advanced for multiple filoviruses including Marburg, Ebola and Sudan virus.

### **Why are existing SNS Ebola countermeasures strain-specific and how do they work? How is Galidesivir different from these existing Ebola countermeasures?**

Existing US Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Ebola countermeasures, including vaccines and monoclonal antibody therapeutics, were developed specifically for Ebola Zaire, the strain responsible for the 2014–2016 West African epidemic. These products work by targeting strain-specific viral surface proteins, meaning their effectiveness depends on a close match between the therapeutic or vaccine and the exact viral strain circulating in an outbreak. Because Ebola Bundibugyo has distinct viral surface characteristics, these Zaire-specific countermeasures do not provide protection or therapeutic benefit against the current Bundibugyo outbreak.

Galidesivir is fundamentally different in its positioning. Rather than being strain-specific, it has been developed as a broad-spectrum antiviral candidate with activity across multiple high-consequence RNA viruses, including Marburg, Ebola and Sudan virus. This broader applicability makes Galidesivir one of the few antiviral candidates globally with the potential to address multiple filovirus threats, including rare strains like Bundibugyo for which no approved countermeasures exist.

### **What is the FDA Animal Rule pathway?**

It is a regulatory mechanism allowing approval of medical countermeasures when human efficacy studies are not feasible or ethical. Approval is based on well-controlled animal studies plus human safety data.

### **How does Mr Taylor's appointment strengthen Island's Animal Rule execution?**

Mr Taylor has direct experience with Animal Rule-aligned programs and has previously worked with USAMRIID and other biodefence agencies, supporting study design, regulatory strategy and operational execution.

### **How will Mr Taylor support Island's pursuit of US Government funding?**

Mr Taylor brings extensive experience securing major BARDA, DoD, NIAID and CDC contracts, including SNS procurement agreements — this expertise is directly relevant to Island's future funding and stockpiling opportunities.

### **Why is the SNS pathway commercially significant?**

SNS procurement contracts can be substantial, long-term and non-dilutive, representing one of the most important commercial opportunities for antiviral countermeasures.

### **Why is there renewed urgency around viral-countermeasure preparedness?**

Recent Ebola Bundibugyo activity, ongoing Sudan and Hantavirus concerns and the unpredictable nature of lethal viral outbreaks have increased global focus on antiviral countermeasures and stockpiling strategies.

### **How does Galidesivir fit into global biodefence priorities?**



Galidesivir targets multiple high-consequence pathogens with pandemic and national-security relevance, aligning with US and international biodefence priorities.

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**Approved for release to the ASX by:**

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**About Island Pharmaceuticals**

Island (ASX: ILA) is focused on areas of unmet need for drugs that can address urgent viral diseases, public health or biosecurity threats. The Company is executing a dual development strategy for its assets, ISLA-101 and Galidesivir.

ISLA-101 has a well-established safety profile, being repurposed for the prevention and treatment of dengue fever and other mosquito (or vector) borne diseases. Galidesivir is a clinical-stage antiviral molecule with a broad spectrum of activity in over 20 RNA viruses, including high-priority threats such as Ebola, Marburg, MERS, Zika and Yellow fever – viruses with significant unmet medical needs and that may contribute to national security threats.

*Island encourages all current investors to go paperless by registering their details with the Company's share registry, Automic Registry Services, whose contact info is housed on the Shareholder Services page of the Company's website.*

Visit [www.islandpharmaceuticals.com](http://www.islandpharmaceuticals.com) for more on Island.