

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT  
Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15(d) of  
The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): April 6, 2018

**NewLink Genetics Corporation**  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**001-35342**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**42-1491350**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**2503 South Loop Drive**  
**Ames, IA**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**50010**  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(515) 296-5555**

**Not applicable**  
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§ 230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§ 240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act

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**Section 8 - Other Events****Item 8.01. Other Events.**

On April 6, 2018, NewLink Genetics Corporation, a Delaware corporation, or the Company, issued a press release titled "NewLink Genetics Announces Review of Clinical Programs."

The Company also announced that they have withdrawn from the previously announced H.C. Wainwright Annual Global Life Sciences Conference and will no longer participate on Tuesday, April 10, 2018.

A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

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**Section 9 - Financial Statements and Exhibits**

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits.

<u>Exhibit Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press Release, dated April 6, 2018, entitled " <a href="#">NewLink Genetics Announces Review of Clinical Programs</a> "

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: April 6, 2018

**NewLink Genetics Corporation**

By: /s/ John B. Henneman III

John B. Henneman III

Its: Chief Financial Officer



## NewLink Genetics Announces Review of Clinical Programs

AMES, Iowa, April 6, 2018 - [NewLink Genetics Corporation](#) (NASDAQ:NLNK) today announced a review of its clinical programs.

This morning's announcement by Incyte and Merck on the ECHO-301 trial for patients with advanced melanoma is a disappointing result for the IDO field. Indoximod, NewLink Genetics' IDO pathway inhibitor, has a differentiated mechanism of action (MOA) which may demonstrate clinical benefit for patients where direct enzymatic inhibitors have not. In light of Incyte's announcement, however, NewLink is undertaking a review of its clinical programs and will provide an update when it is completed.

NewLink Genetics has generated data for indoximod across several indications, and in combination with different modalities, suggesting the potential for indoximod to improve the outcomes for patients with cancer. The Company will present additional data at AACR next week, including a poster presentation further supporting indoximod's differentiated MOA and a plenary session presenting encouraging early clinical data of indoximod plus radiation for pediatric patients with diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG), a rare and lethal form of brain cancer.

### About Indoximod

Indoximod is an investigational, orally available small molecule targeting the IDO pathway. The IDO pathway is a key immunology target involved in regulating the tumor microenvironment and immune escape. Indoximod is being evaluated in combination with treatment regimens including anti-PD-1/PD-L1 agents, cancer vaccines, radiation, and chemotherapy across multiple indications such as melanoma, pancreatic cancer and other malignancies.

### About NewLink Genetics Corporation

NewLink Genetics is a late-stage biopharmaceutical company focusing on discovering, developing and commercializing novel immuno-oncology product candidates to improve the lives of patients with cancer. NewLink Genetics' IDO pathway inhibitors are designed to harness multiple components of the immune system to combat cancer. For more information, please visit [www.newlinkgenetics.com](http://www.newlinkgenetics.com) and follow us on Twitter [@NLNKGenetics](https://twitter.com/NLNKGenetics).

### Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

*This press release contains forward-looking statements of NewLink Genetics that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. All statements, other than statements of historical fact, contained in this press release are forward-looking statements, within the meaning of The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The words "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may," "plan," "target," "potential," "will," "could," "should," "seek" or the negative of these terms or other similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements, although not all forward-looking statements contain these identifying words. These forward-looking statements include, among others, statements about results of its clinical trials for product candidates; its timing of release of data from ongoing clinical studies; its plans related to moving additional indications into clinical development; and any other statements other than statements of historical fact. Actual results or events could differ materially from the plans, intentions and expectations disclosed in the forward-looking statements that NewLink makes due to a number of important factors, including those risks discussed in "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in NewLink Genetics' Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017 and other reports filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The forward-looking statements in this press release represent NewLink Genetics' views as of the date of this press release. NewLink Genetics anticipates that subsequent events and developments will cause its views*

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*to change. However, while it may elect to update these forward-looking statements at some point in the future, it specifically disclaims any obligation to do so. You should, therefore, not rely on these forward-looking statements as representing NewLink Genetics' views as of any date subsequent to the date of this press release.*

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