## 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 25, 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 o

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 o

## Section 8 - Other Events

## Item 8.01. Other Events.

On April 25, 2018, NewLink Genetics Corporation issued a press release titled "NewLink Genetics Announces Presentation of Abstracts at ASCO 2018 Annual Meeting."

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

## Section 9 - Financial Statements and Exhibits

# Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit Number	Description
99.1	Press Release, dated April 25, 2018, entitled " <u>NewLink Genetics Announces Presentation of Abstracts at ASCO 2018</u> <u>Annual Meeting</u> ."

## 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 25, 2018

## **NewLink Genetics Corporation**

By: <u>/s/ John B. Henneman III</u>

John B. Henneman III

Its: Chief Financial Officer



# NewLink Genetics Announces Presentation of Abstracts at ASCO 2018 Annual Meeting

AMES, Iowa, April 25, 2018 - <u>NewLink Genetics Corporation</u> (NASDAQ:NLNK) today reported that two abstracts pertaining to the company's indoximod program will be presented at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) 2018 Annual Meeting in Chicago.

- Poster Discussion Session: Poster Board #204 <u>Abstract 4015</u> Phase 2 trial of the IDO pathway inhibitor indoximod plus gemcitabine / nab-paclitaxel for the treatment of patients with metastatic pancreas cancer to be presented during the discussion session, "Gastrointestinal (Noncolorectal) Cancer," Sunday, June 3, 2018, 4:45 PM 6:00 PM CT
- Poster Discussion Session: Poster Board #339 <u>Abstract 9512</u> Phase 2 trial of the IDO pathway inhibitor indoximod plus checkpoint inhibition for the treatment of patients with advanced melanoma to be presented during the discussion session, "Melanoma/Skin Cancers," Monday, June 4, 2018, 4:45 PM 6:00 PM CT

The complete text of abstracts selected for presentation at the ASCO 2018 Annual Meeting will be posted to the <u>ASCO website</u> on Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 5pm ET.

"We are pleased to have the opportunity to present the results at ASCO from both of these Phase 2 trials of indoximod in combination therapies for patients with pancreatic cancer and advanced melanoma. We continue to gather data supporting the potential for our differentiated IDO pathway inhibitor, indoximod, in multiple combinations to improve the lives of patients with cancer," said Nicholas N. Vahanian, MD, President.

# About Indoximod

Indoximod is an investigational, orally available small molecule targeting the IDO pathway. The IDO pathway is a key immunooncology 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, chemotherapy, radiation and cancer vaccines 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 <u>www.NewLinkGenetics.com</u> and follow us on Twitter <u>@NLNKGenetics</u>.

# 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 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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