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## Inside Concert Pharma's new HQ in popular Lexington biotech campus

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Concert Pharmaceuticals has become the latest biotech to move into a new state-of-the-art lab in Lexington, saying it will better suit the company as it heads into the later stage of clinical trials.

Concert Pharmaceuticals (Nasdaq: CNCE) is opening a new 55,000-square-foot headquarters with state-of-the-art lab space in the Hayden Research Campus on Monday.

The biopharmaceutical company, which was previously located down the street at 99 Hayden Ave. in Lexington, aims to increase the efficacy and longevity of existing drug compounds by replacing hydrogen with an isotope called deuterium.

The method may also reduce negative side effects from existing medications for ailments like schizophrenia, according to CEO Roger Tung.

The company is readying several drugs for Phase 2 and 3 clinical trials, one of which would be a first-ever oral treatment for alopecia.

"This was really an opportunity for us to think about what the next phase of the company was," COO Nancy Stuart said of the new headquarters. "We looked at



space in Cambridge, as well as Bedford, Waltham and Woburn, and frankly, for the amenities we get here... this made the most sense for us."

The research campus offers an array of amenities that Concert executives say will help retaining employees in the competitive Massachusetts market. Nearly a quarter of Concert's employees have been with the 12-year-old company for at least a decade, and officials are looking to keep it that way.

The internal structure of the Hayden Avenue campus — which served as the headquarters for Cubist Pharmaceuticals until the company was purchased by Merck in 2015 — was already designed for a biotech company and needed few renovations.

Employees have access to a central cafeteria, underground parking, a complimentary shuttle to the Alewife MBTA station, a gym and more. All three buildings — 45, 55 and 65 Hayden — are now fully occupied, according to the developers.

Developers King Street Properties and real estate investors HCP have started construction on a new 213,000-square-foot addition to the campus called 75 Hayden. The new building is scheduled to open in mid-2020.

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