

Find It Before Everyone Else Does — Privately

How [OniX AI Agents](#) track emerging therapeutic programs from first government funding through clinical readiness

By the time an early-stage biotech program appears at a conference, in a partnering database, or in the trade press, the signal is no longer particularly early.

The more valuable signal often appears much sooner: a government feasibility award, a follow-on grant, a new publication, an investigator beginning work on a target, a preclinical study, or the first clinical protocol.

These signals are public. They are simply scattered across government databases, publications, clinical trial registries, and research systems — and rarely connected into a single view.

OniX AI Agents connect those signals and follow programs as they mature, from early government funding through scientific validation, preclinical development, and clinical readiness. The result is not another biotech database — it's an early-signal intelligence workflow for pharma BD and scouting teams.

The Signal Often Starts Before the Company Does

A company does not need to announce a program for that program to become interesting. An NIH SBIR award can reveal a therapeutic hypothesis before a company has significant visibility. A Phase II award can indicate that independent reviewers saw enough promise to support continued development. A cluster of publications can reveal growing scientific activity around a target. A new clinical trial can signal that an experimental program has crossed into clinical development.

OniX follows these signals as they accumulate, from first funding through clinical readiness:

Stage	What OniX Tracks	The BD Signal
1. Government Funding	SBIR/STTR NIH + NSF, UKRI (Innovative UK), and EU awards	<i>Someone just funded this idea.</i>
2. Scientific Validation	Publications, investigators, targets, methods, and funding relationships	<i>The science is accumulating.</i>
3. Preclinical Progression	In-vitro/in-vivo evidence and translational methods	<i>The program may be moving toward development.</i>
4. Clinical Readiness	Trials, investigators, sites, eligibility criteria, and protocol benchmarks	<i>The asset is becoming clinically relevant.</i>

1. Early-Stage Discovery — Find the Signal Early

Live in the U.S., UK and EU

Startups Pipeline Digest identifies NIH SBIR (Phase I/II), NIH STTR (Phase I/II), and NSF SBIR/STTR awards in a disease or condition category directly from each agency's own database. Rather than relying on company announcements or curated startup lists, OniX starts with the underlying government funding signal.

It also flags programs that progressed from a Phase I feasibility award to a Phase II award — a real signal that independent government reviewers re-funded the work after seeing initial results.

UKRI Startups Digest (Innovate UK company funding) and Horizon Europe/H2020 Startups Digest (EIC Accelerator and SME Instrument awards) extend the same discovery model to the UK and EU.

The objective is simple: identify potentially relevant programs while they're still emerging.

2. Landscape & Funding Intelligence — Understand What the Signal Means

Finding a company is only the beginning. Once a program is worth watching, OniX builds the surrounding evidence using Comprehensive Research & Funding, Funding Signal, Partnering Researcher Landscape, Emerging Innovation, and Target Validation & Opportunity — connecting questions such as:

- Who is funding this science, and who else is active in the space?
- Which investigators are working on the target?
- What has been published, and what's novel versus just well-funded?
- Where is activity accelerating, and what scientific or competitive white space exists?

The goal is to move from “interesting company” to “understood opportunity.”

3. Preclinical & IND-Enabling — Follow the Science Forward

In development

Preclinical Methods (In-Vitro/In-Vivo) examines published experimental approaches around targets and diseases, including methods associated with programs that subsequently reached clinical development.

FDA Preclinical Package Digest is already generating real output and is being refined before broader release, as known data-quality gaps get worked out.

This stage moves OniX beyond identifying who is working on something, toward understanding how the field is attempting to translate the science into a development program.

4. Clinical Stage — See Where Programs Are Becoming Real

Live / In development

Clinical Trial Site Experience identifies hospitals, universities, and investigators with documented experience running trials in a disease area.

CT Protocol Benchmark & Design benchmarks a draft protocol's eligibility criteria and endpoints against relevant trials and the broader field before the protocol is locked.

The objective isn't simply to know a trial exists — it's to understand the clinical environment around the program: who has experience, how the field is designing studies, and where a new program may fit.

What “Early” Looks Like in Practice

These aren't synthetic demonstrations. The examples below come from real runs against live government and research data.



Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva

A single Comprehensive Research & Funding run pulled 58 real records across NIH RePORTER, PubMed, ClinicalTrials.gov, USASpending.gov, JSPS/KAKEN (Japan), and CORDIS (EU) — surfacing four companies actively running trials, a federally funded biotech program, and an EU-funded clinical trial, connecting information across sources in minutes rather than a multi-day manual search.

EU Early-Stage Oncology Funding

A single query across the combined Horizon Europe and Horizon 2020 dataset returned 308 real early-stage company awards related to cancer — a consolidated view of funded early-stage oncology activity that would otherwise mean manually cross-referencing two separate EU funding databases by hand.

Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

Startups Pipeline Digest surfaces NIH-funded company awards for Duchenne muscular dystrophy directly from NIH's own SBIR/STTR data — the same funding signal that can be applied across disease areas to identify companies receiving government support before they become highly visible through conventional BD channels.

Built and verified against real, live agency data — NIH, NSF, UKRI, and CORDIS — not synthetic test cases.

Public Data. Private Intelligence.

The information OniX analyzes is public. Your scouting activity does not have to be.

OniX Agents are local-first: searches, saved topics, and reports can remain on your own machine unless you choose to share them. That matters when the question itself is commercially sensitive.

A pharma BD team may want to monitor a target, disease area, modality, or emerging company for months before making contact. OniX lets the team investigate quietly, build its evidence base, and decide when — or whether — to act.

Why This Matters for Pharma BD

Traditional scouting often begins when a company becomes visible:

Conference → Press Release → Partnering Database → Outreach

OniX is designed to move that starting point earlier:

Government Funding → Scientific Activity → Preclinical Evidence → Clinical Development → Partnership Opportunity

Earlier signals aren't necessarily better signals — but earlier signals give a BD team more time to determine whether they become better ones. That's the opportunity.

What's Already Built — and What's Next

OniX is deliberately transparent about what's live today, what's actively being built, and what's a longer-term direction rather than current capability.

Live today

- NIH and NSF early-stage funding discovery (Startups Pipeline Digest)
- UKRI Startups Digest and Horizon Europe/H2020 Startups Digest (UK and EU coverage)
- Comprehensive Research & Funding, Funding Signal, Partnering Researcher Landscape, Emerging Innovation, Target Validation & Opportunity
- Clinical Trial Site Experience and multiple cross-source research workflows

In development

- Preclinical Methods (In-Vitro/In-Vivo) and FDA Preclinical Package Digest
- CT Protocol Benchmark & Design
- Broader small business companies' coverage beyond NIH and NSF, UK, and EU

On the roadmap — not yet built

- Dedicated company and deal-financing data — a distinct, longer-term data source, separate from the government-funding signals above

These aren't claims about capabilities that don't yet exist — they're the next pieces of the same journey: following an emerging program from its earliest public signal toward clinical and commercial relevance.

Find the Signal. Follow the Evidence. Decide Earlier.

Bring OniX a therapeutic area, target, modality, disease, or specific company. Run it against real data. See what emerges.

Explore OniX AI Agents: onixhub.com/agents

Interested in a private test for your BD or scouting team? Contact martin@onixhub.com