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HEADLINE: MEDIMMUNE

ANCHOR LEAD: WHAT DO JOHNS HOPKINS AND A BIOTECH FIRM HAVE IN COMMON? ELIZABETH TRACEY REPORTS

Can Johns Hopkins and the biotechnology firm MedImmune craft a mutually beneficial relationship? That's the hope of a new enterprise between Hopkins and this subsidiary of the pharma giant AstraZeneca. Landon King, executive vice dean for Johns Hopkins Medicine, says such a partnership helps bring discoveries at the bench to the bedside.

KING: We have always been interested in looking for partners to engage with, to advance different components of our mission, and certainly that's true in research. That has transitioned more and more from being opportunity to being mandate as the NIH, the public, the legislators, are asking us, what are we doing to translate good ideas into products or opportunities to impact health? :27

King says that industry is accustomed to overcoming barriers relative to commercialization so that is one hope in this new endeavor. At Johns Hopkins, I'm Elizabeth Tracey.