# Dr. Jonathan Talbot Wins the 2026 Strüngmann Award

Dr. Jonathan Talbot has been awarded the 2026 Strüngmann Award, which carries a prize of EUR 100,000, selected from a strong field of finalists that included Dr. Stefano Portolano and Prof. Dr. med. Wieland Sommer.

The jury particularly recognized his ability to identify scientific potential at an early stage and leverage it with strategic foresight to build biotech companies.

Starting in 2027, the Strüngmann Award will expand to accept nominations from across Europe.

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Biotech entrepreneur Dr. Jonathan Talbot was named the winner of the 2026 Strüngmann Award at today's official awards ceremony. Established in honor of Drs. Andreas and Thomas Strüngmann, this award recognizes outstanding entrepreneurs who translate scientific and technological innovations into successful products and companies through a willingness to take risks and the ability to deliver results.

"Dr. Jonathan Talbot demonstrates exceptional business acumen: He recognizes scientific potential and, with conviction and discipline, translates it into new opportunities for therapeutic development. In doing so, he combines a deep scientific understanding with clear strategy and consistent execution," said Drs. Andreas and Thomas Strüngmann.

The two added: "On behalf of the Award Committee and this year's jury, we congratulate Dr. Jonathan Talbot on this recognition. At the same time, we would like to acknowledge the outstanding achievements of the two other finalists, Dr. Stefano Portolano and Prof. Dr. Wieland Sommer. The three finalists represent distinct approaches to building and growing companies and showcase the breadth and innovative strength of the life sciences industry in the DACH region."

"For me, being a biotech founder means seizing scientific opportunities, continuously reassessing them, and consistently translating them into viable business models. The Strüngmann Award is a great recognition of this approach and, at the same time, of the people with whom I have had the privilege of building companies and pursuing a shared ambition: developing innovative therapies for diseases with high unmet medical needs," said this year's Strüngmann Award winner, Dr. Jonathan Talbot.

## Winner Impresses with Intuition for Scientific Potential and Strategic Company Building

Dr. Jonathan Talbot has built several life sciences startups and guided them from inception through clinical development. He recognized new potential in a drug candidate for the treatment of obstructive sleep apnea, the development of which had previously been discontinued, and subsequently founded Mosanna Therapeutics. Together with his team, he reassessed scientific findings, developed a targeted drug delivery approach, and brought the program back into clinical development. Under his leadership, Mosanna secured more than USD 80 million through several financing rounds.

Today, Dr. Jonathan Talbot leads Melodia Therapeutics, a biotech company developing innovative oral therapies for severe, neutrophil-driven inflammatory diseases. The company is currently developing a next-generation DPP1 inhibitor in preclinical development.

### Selection from a Distinguished Group of Nominees

For the 2026 Strüngmann Award, a broad network of experts once again nominated outstanding entrepreneurs from the DACH region. Through a careful, multi-stage selection process, three finalists were selected: Dr. Stefano Portolano (Azafaros), Prof. Dr. med. Wieland Sommer (Jacobian), and Dr. Jonathan Talbot (Mosanna Therapeutics / Melodia Therapeutics). The three finalists then presented their companies and entrepreneurial journeys to a jury of established business leaders and biotechnology investors. Their achievements range from developing therapies for rare and ultra-rare diseases and scaling digital technologies in healthcare internationally, to reassessing and further advancing a previously discontinued therapeutic approach. Being selected as one of the three finalists is in itself a distinct recognition of their achievements.

### The Next Step: Europe

Starting in 2027, the Strüngmann Award will expand its reach to Europe. The aim going forward is to recognize outstanding scientific and entrepreneurial achievements in and beyond the DACH region.

"Over the past three years, the Strüngmann Award has established itself within the life sciences community in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland," said Wolfgang Essler, Managing Director of ATHOS KG. "Scientific innovation and entrepreneurship thrive on international exchange and do not stop at national borders. Broadening the award's reach to include all of Europe is therefore the logical next step for us. We look forward to receiving nominations from across Europe in the coming years."

To learn more about the award, visit the website www.struengmannaward.de/en.

### About the Strüngmann Award

The award was initiated in 2024 to honor outstanding entrepreneurs in the life sciences industry across the DACH region who turn scientific ideas into successful products through a spirit of innovation and entrepreneurial excellence. The goal is to acknowledge their achievements with this prestigious and financially attractive award and to set an example for future generations.

The prize pays tribute to Drs. Andreas and Thomas Strüngmann, who are among the most recognized entrepreneurs, visionaries, and investors in the life sciences sector. With the founding and development of Hexal, the brothers achieved extraordinary success and subsequently continued this legacy as entrepreneurially minded investors. Through the ATHOS Family Office they have been committed for more than 20 years to advancing medical innovation and building transformative, forward-thinking companies.

**Media Contact:**
MC Services
Anne Hennecke / Caroline Bergmann
Phone: +49 175 2624256
EMail: struengmannaward@mc-services.eu