

Oragenics has a reason to smile with \$2M round

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Innovative Biopharmaceuticals from Oral Science TAMPA, FL – [Oragenics Inc.](#) (OTCBB:ORNI) has closed on a \$2 million equity and debt round, according to a regulatory filing. The company has developed an oral treatment that could prevent tooth cavities for a lifetime, an antibiotic effective against resistant bacteria, and other innovative products.

Koski Family Limited Partnership is the company's main investor.

Oragenics, which disclosed the financing in a filing with the US Securities and Exchange Commission, focuses on the discovery, development and commercialization of oral health, antibiotics and general health.

Founded in 1996, it has R&D facilities in Alachua, FL and is headquartered in Tampa.

It sells products based on its ProBiora technology and has a number of others in development.

The company's Web site outlines the following company history:

Dr. Jeffery Hillman began his basic research into the concept of replacement therapy for preventing dental caries or cavities in the late 1970's at the Forsyth Institute in Boston. He transferred his research to the University of Florida College of Dentistry in 1992.

There, he continued to pursue the development of a genetically engineered strain of *Streptococcus mutans* that could help prevent cavities by replacing the body's natural caries-causing strains of *S. mutans*.

Currently in clinical trials, Oragenics' patented SMaRT Replacement Therapy is a painless, one-time, five-minute treatment that has the potential to offer lifelong protection against tooth decay. Applied topically to the teeth with a swab, the therapy can be administered by dentists in the office or in the field.

During his work with *S. mutans*, Dr. Hillman discovered MU 1140, or a mutacin, a powerful antibiotic that is produced by the bacterium in tiny amounts. This new broad-spectrum antibiotic has demonstrated activity against Gram-positive bacteria responsible for a variety of clinically important diseases, such as MRSA (methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*), VRE (vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus faecalis*) and both growing and non-replicating *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* cells.

Under the research leadership of Dr. Hillman, the company is also developing two proprietary platforms for the identification of genetic targets that can be used in diagnostic tests as well as in vaccines and therapeutics.

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- [nyscof](#) says:
[August 19, 2010 at 12:45 pm](#)

What is being left out is that nutrients are required to make teeth resistant to decay. So I doubt this new process could eliminate tooth decay if people aren't consuming enough calcium and other nutrients required to build strong teeth and keep them strong.

