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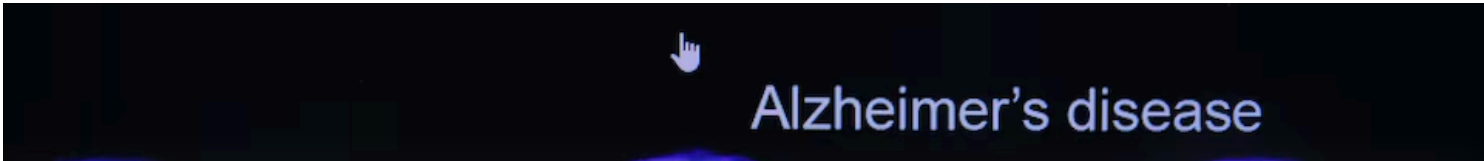


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Cassava Sciences must face malicious prosecution lawsuit over Alzheimer's drug

By Jonathan Stempel

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NEW YORK, March 26 (Reuters) - The biotechnology company Cassava Sciences ([SAVA.O](#)) failed on Wednesday to end a malicious prosecution lawsuit by doctors and short-sellers who expressed doubts about its experimental, soon-to-be-discontinued Alzheimer's drug [simufilam](#).

U.S. District Judge Jennifer Rochon in Manhattan said Adrian Heilbut, Jesse Brodtkin, Enea Milioris, David Bredt and Geoffrey Pitt could try to prove that Cassava knew or should have known that it could not win its defamation lawsuit against them, which it [dismissed](#) in August.



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Cassava accused the plaintiffs of trying to hurt its share price by claiming on social media and the [cassavafraud.com](#) website that a City University of New York medical professor who consulted for the company fabricated research for simufilam.

The professor, Hoau-Yan Wang, pleaded not guilty in July to federal [fraud](#) charges he submitted false data to the National Institutes of Health to obtain public grants. A Maryland judge refused to dismiss

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