**OUR HEROS IN THE NEWS**

One Chinese American Hero, Patrick Soon-Shiong was in the news a few years ago for acquiring the Los Angeles Times and San Diego Union-Tribune news publishing empires.

For those wondering why a successful physician and philanthropist, would purchase these two publishing companies - here is Soon-Shiong’s explanation. In his youth, he worked at a news print station and distributed copies for young men to make final home deliveries. This infected him with the love of hard copy - and shunted internet screen deliveries.

**Most important, he wanted to produce a product of honesty and integrity, not fake news.**

Our Historian hopes that all our readers concur with his objectives and wish him all the best.

It should be noted that Soon-Shiong donated $100,000,000 to the Los Angeles hospital system. That’s what a billionaire can do, although not all billionaires do this.

Be sure to check his story on Wikipedia. He has been so successful, reportedly worth more than $11 billion, and has many, so many, achievements and contributions to count. **We salute you Patrick Soon-Shiong.**

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**SOURCES:**

**New L.A. Times owner Patrick Soon-Shiong writes a note to readers**

**L.A. Times, Jun 17, 2018 | 7:30 AM**



**Dr. Patrick Soon-Shiong at the NantWorks campus in Culver City in April. (Eduardo Contreras / TNS)**

**Dr. Patrick Soon-Shiong** will become the new owner of the Los Angeles Times and the San Diego Union-Tribune on Monday, when the sale is expected to be finalized.

Here is a letter to readers that appeared as a full-page ad in Sunday’s newspapers:

*Today marks a new era for the Los Angeles Times, The San Diego Union-Tribune and publications across the California News Group. My family and I are truly honored and privileged to assume the mantle of these storied institutions of democracy. To me, this is the culmination of an immigrant’s American Dream.*

*From today, our important work protecting and building on a rich history of independent journalism begins — with a sense of urgency and purpose.*

Nylon is a strong synthetic composed of dense molecules, giving it incredible strength. See how this synthetic material’s extraordinary potential benefits those...

***I believe that fake news is the cancer of our times and social media the vehicles for metastasis****. Institutions like The Times and the Union-Tribune are more vital than ever. They must be bastions of editorial integrity and independence if they are to protect our democracy and provide an antidote to disinformation. We will continue our papers’ dedication to truth, integrity, journalistic independence, and storytelling that engages, informs, educates and inspires with care and compassion.*

*In an era of digitally enabled disruptions which pose an existential threat to the traditional newspaper industry, the California News Group must be run as a business in order to grow and thrive, never losing sight of the needs and interests of our readers. As a private, locally owned enterprise, we will invest in the group’s future. While ad-supported print publications will continue to feel the pressures occasioned by the digital era, we are confident that our print products will remain viable and vital. This is especially true for those readers who, like myself, still enjoy the tactile and leisurely experience of a physical newspaper. Yet we are impatient and ambitious when it comes to introducing new products that will inform and delight local and global audiences.*

[](http://www.latimes.com/business/hollywood/la-fi-ct-patrick-soon-shiong-latimes-sold-20180616-story.html)

[**Historic sale of the L.A. Times to billionaire Patrick Soon-Shiong to close on Monday**](http://www.latimes.com/business/hollywood/la-fi-ct-patrick-soon-shiong-latimes-sold-20180616-story.html)

**Jun 16, 2018 | 12:50 PM**

*Many of you may wonder why we bought these publications. The decision is deeply personal. America and, more particularly, Southern California, have given me unimaginable opportunities. Here is where I deepened my education, built a family, found ways to contribute to advances in medicine and science, and took inspiration from sports, entertainment and the arts. I grew up in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, the son of a working-class shopkeeper.*

*My parents had fled southern China during World War II after the Japanese occupied their ancestral homes. When I was 14 years old, I began earning money to fund my college education by distributing copies of the Evening Post newspaper.*

*I still recall the sounds and smells of the printing presses as the first papers rolled off the conveyor belt. I would grab as many as 800 copies from an ink-stained pressman, handing them off to my cadre of “runners” who would then deliver them to local businesses and residences.*

*Newspapers were not only in my blood, they also engaged my mind. Reading the Post’s headlines and stories, I learned what it meant to grow up “non-white” under apartheid. I came to understand the evil consequences of racism and discrimination. I began to appreciate the essential role journalism plays in fostering and sustaining democracy and free societies.*

*We purchased the California News Group because we want to preserve the integrity, honesty and fairness we’ve observed in our decades as avid readers of the Los Angeles Times. My family and I fervently believe that The Times, the Union-Tribune and our other titles must continue to serve as beacons of truth, hope and inspiration binding our communities.*

*We view the publications we acquired as a quasi-public trust. We understand they will be the voice and inspiration for our cities, our state, the nation and the world.*

*We also understand the importance of editorial integrity and independence. We share our commitment to both with the talented journalists at our publications. They are our lifeblood.*

*I grew up believing the best newspapers are the voice of the people. None of my personal success has changed that belief.*

*We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you. The California News Group will continue to play its pivotal role in our communities, from Los Angeles to San Diego, projecting out to the world. This region is an incubator for change, innovation and discovery, and we are deeply committed to telling its stories.*

*When I came to Los Angeles, decades ago, I could not imagine the opportunities this region and this country would provide for me. My family and I are deeply grateful for this opportunity to support our institutions and to continue this vital mission.*

*Sincerely,*

*Dr. Patrick Soon-Shiong*

**From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia**

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| **Patrick Soon-Shiong** | |
| [Dr Patrick Soon-Shiong (14212355607) cropped.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Dr_Patrick_Soon-Shiong_(14212355607)_cropped.jpg)  Soon-Shiong in 2014 | |
| **Born** | July 29, 1952 (age 70)  [Port Elizabeth](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port_Elizabeth), [Union of South Africa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Union_of_South_Africa) |
| **Nationality** | American |
| **Alma mater** | [University of the Witwatersrand](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_the_Witwatersrand) ([MBBCh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bachelor_of_Medicine,_Bachelor_of_Surgery)) [University of British Columbia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_British_Columbia) ([MS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Master_of_Science)) |
| **Occupations** | * Transplant surgeon * Medical entrepreneur * Scientist * Inventor |
| **Known for** | Inventor of [Abraxane](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protein-bound_paclitaxel) Developer of transplant techniques for [pancreatic islets](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pancreatic_islets) |
| **Title** | CEO of Nantworks LLC Owner of Los Angeles Times Owner of San Diego Tribune Minority owner of Los Angeles Lakers |
| **Spouse** | [Michele B. Chan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michele_B._Chan) |
| **Children** | 2, including [Nika](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nika_Soon-Shiong) |
|  | |
| **Chinese name** | |
| [Chinese](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese_language) | 黃馨祥 |
| |  | | --- | | show**Transcriptions** | | |

**Patrick Soon-Shiong** (born July 29, 1952) is a South African-born Chinese-American [transplant surgeon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transplant_surgeon), billionaire businessman, bioscientist, and [media proprietor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Media_proprietor). He is the inventor of the drug [Abraxane](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abraxane), which became known for its efficacy against lung, breast, and [pancreatic cancer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pancreatic_cancer). Soon-Shiong is the founder of [NantWorks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NantWorks" \o "NantWorks), a network of healthcare, biotech, and artificial intelligence startups;[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-Forbes-1) an adjunct professor of surgery and executive director of the Wireless Health Institute at the [University of California, Los Angeles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_California,_Los_Angeles); and a visiting professor at [Imperial College London](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imperial_College_London) and [Dartmouth College](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dartmouth_College).[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-AcademicBios-2)[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-3)[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-labusinessjournal-4) Soon-Shiong has published more than 100 scientific papers and has more than 230 issued patents worldwide on advancements spanning numerous fields in technology and medicine.[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-labusinessjournal-4)

Soon-Shiong is the chairman of three nonprofit organizations: the Chan Soon-Shiong Family Foundation, which aims to fund research and erase disparities in access to health care and education;[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-familyfoundation-5) the Chan Soon-Shiong Institute for Advanced Health, which is focused on changing the way health information is shared;[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-6) and the Healthcare Transformation Institute, a partnership with the [University of Arizona](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Arizona) and [Arizona State University](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arizona_State_University).[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-Forbes-1) He has been a minority owner of the [Los Angeles Lakers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Los_Angeles_Lakers) since 2010, and since June 2018, he has been the owner and executive chairman of the [*Los Angeles Times*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Los_Angeles_Times) and [*The San Diego Union-Tribune*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_San_Diego_Union-Tribune).[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-Tronc-7) As of April 2021, Soon-Shiong is estimated by [*Forbes*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forbes) to have a net worth of US$11.5 billion.[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-ForbesProfile-8) He has committed to [the Giving Pledge](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Giving_Pledge) and has pledged to give away at least half of his wealth to philanthropy.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-familyfoundation-5)

Early life and education[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Patrick_Soon-Shiong&action=edit&section=1&editintro=Template:BLP_editintro)]

Soon-Shiong was born in [Port Elizabeth](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port_Elizabeth), [Union of South Africa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Africa), to [Chinese immigrant parents](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese_South_Africans) who fled from China during the [Japanese occupation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_occupation_of_China) in World War II.[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-whitford2013-9)[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-gs-10) His parents were [Hakka](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hakka) originally from [Meixian District](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meixian_District" \o "Meixian District) in [Guangdong](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guangdong) province.[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-gs-10)[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-whitford2013-9) His ancestral surname is [Wong](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wong_(surname)) (黃).[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-gs-10)

Soon-Shiong graduated 4th out of his class of 189 from the [University of Witwatersrand](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Witwatersrand), receiving a bachelor's degree in medicine (MBBCh) at age 23.[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-ForbesArmstrong030610-11) He completed his medical internship at Johannesburg's General Hospital.[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-12) He then studied at the [University of British Columbia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_British_Columbia), where he earned a master's degree in 1979,[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-13) with research awards from the [American College of Surgeons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_College_of_Surgeons), the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and the American Association of Academic Surgery.[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-:0-14)

He moved to the United States and began surgical training at [University of California, Los Angeles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_California,_Los_Angeles) (UCLA), and became a board-certified surgeon in 1984.[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-15) Soon-Shiong is a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons (Canada) and a [Fellow of the American College of Surgeons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fellow_of_the_American_College_of_Surgeons).[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-:0-14)[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-AcademicBios-2)

Career[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Patrick_Soon-Shiong&action=edit&section=2&editintro=Template:BLP_editintro)]

Soon-Shiong joined [UCLA Medical School](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UCLA_Medical_School) in 1983 and served on that faculty until 1991,[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-16)[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-AcademicBios-2) as a transplant surgeon.[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-whitford2013-9) Between 1984 and 1987, he served as an associate investigator at the Center for Ulcer Research and Education.[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-AcademicBios-2) Soon-Shiong performed the first whole-pancreas transplant done at UCLA,[[17]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-UMagUCLA15-17)[[18]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-18) and he developed and first performed the experimental [Type 1 diabetes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Type_1_diabetes)-treatment known as encapsulated-human-[islet transplant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islet_transplantation), and the "first pig-to-man islet-cell transplant in diabetic patients."[[17]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-UMagUCLA15-17) After a period in industry, he returned to UCLA in 2009, serving as a professor of microbiology, immunology, molecular genetics and bioengineering until this date. Soon-Shiong served as a visiting professor at Imperial College, London, in 2011.[[19]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-UCLAcommence-19)

Soon-Shiong purchased Fujisawa, which sold injectable generic drugs, in 1998. He used its revenues to develop [Abraxane](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abraxane), which took an existing chemotherapy drug, [Taxol](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taxol), and wrapped it in protein that made it easier to deliver to tumors. He was able to quickly move it through the regulatory process and made his fortune with this medicine.[[20]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-Forb_2020/08/27-20) In 1991, Soon-Shiong left UCLA to start a diabetes and cancer biotechnology firm called VivoRx Inc. This led to the founding in 1997 of APP Pharmaceuticals, of which he held 80% of outstanding stock and sold to [Fresenius SE](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fresenius_SE) for $4.6 billion in July 2008.[[21]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-app-21) Soon-Shiong later founded [Abraxis BioScience](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abraxis_BioScience" \o "Abraxis BioScience) (maker of the drug, Abraxane),[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-labusinessjournal-4) a company he sold to [Celgene](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Celgene) in 2010 in a cash-and-stock deal valued at over $3 billion.[[22]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-celgene-22)

Soon-Shiong founded [NantHealth](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NantHealth" \o "NantHealth) in 2007 to provide fiber-optic, cloud-based data infrastructure to share healthcare information.[[23]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-23) Soon-Shiong went on to found [NantWorks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NantWorks" \o "NantWorks) in September 2011, whose mission was "to converge ultra-low power semiconductor technology, supercomputing, high performance, secure advanced networks and augmented intelligence to transform how we work, play, and live."[[24]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-24)[[25]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-25) It owns a number of [technology companies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Technology_companies) in the fields of [healthcare](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Healthcare), commerce, [digital entertainment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital_entertainment) as well as a [venture capital firm](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Venture_capital_firm) in the healthcare, education, science, and technology sectors. Particular technologies include [machine vision](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Machine_vision), [object](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Object_recognition) and [voice recognition](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Speech_recognition), [low power](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Low-power_electronics) [semiconductors](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Semiconductor), [supercomputing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Supercomputing), and networking technologies.[[26]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-bloomberg-26) In October 2012, Soon-Shiong announced that NantHealth's supercomputer-based system and network were able to analyze the genetic data from a tumor sample in 47 seconds and transfer the data in 18 seconds. The goal of developing this infrastructure and digital technologies was to share genomic information among sequencing centers, medical research hubs and hospitals, and to advance cancer research and big science endeavors such as [The Cancer Genome Atlas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Cancer_Genome_Atlas).[[27]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-27) In January 2013, he founded another biotech company, [NantOmics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NantOmics" \o "NantOmics), to develop cancer drugs based on [protein kinase inhibitors](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protein_kinase_inhibitors). NantOmics and its sister company, NantHealth, were subsidiaries of NantWorks. Soon-Shiong stated that NantWorks' vision for the future of cancer treatment was a convergence of multiple technologies that included diagnostics, supercomputing, network modeling of sharing data on tumor genes and personalized cocktails of cancer drugs in multi-target attacks, to achieve a sustained disease-free state.[[28]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-28)

In 2010, with [Arizona State University](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arizona_State_University) and the [University of Arizona](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Arizona), Soon-Shiong founded the Healthcare Transformation Institute (HTI), which he dubs a "do-tank".[[29]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-29) HTI's mission is to promote a shift in health care in the United States by better integrating the three now separate domains of medical science, health delivery, and healthcare finance.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-Forbes-1)[[30]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-30) In July 2015, Soon-Shiong initiated an [IPO](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IPO) for [NantKwest](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=NantKwest&action=edit&redlink=1" \o "NantKwest (page does not exist)) (formerly ConkWest) that represented the highest value biotech IPO in history, at a market value of $2.6 billion.[[31]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-Wall_Street_Journal-31) In April 2016, the *Los Angeles Times* reported that Soon-Shiong received a pay package in 2015 from NantKwest worth almost $148 million, making him one of the highest paid CEOs.[[32]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-latimes2-32) Soon-Shiong is also a member of the [Berggruen Institute](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Berggruen_Institute)'s 21st Century Council.[[33]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-33)[[34]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-34)

In 2015, Soon-Shiong's NantPharma purchase the drug Cynviloq from Sorrento Therapeutics for $90 million dollars, including more than $1 billion dollars in compensation for reaching regulatory and sales milestones[[35]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-35) Soon-Shiong did not push forward with FDA approval as the agreement dictated, and instead allowed critical patents and deadlines lapse, presumably due to his financial interest in another drug that would compete with Cynviloq. This "catch and kill" method of eliminating competition follows a pattern of questionable business practices by Soon-Shiong,[[36]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-36) and claims of "looting" by the cleberity actress and musician [Cher](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cher).[[37]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-37)[[38]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-38)

In early 2016, Soon-Shiong launched the National Immunotherapy Coalition to encourage rival pharmaceutical companies to work together to test combinations of cancer-fighting drugs.[[39]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-39) He has also met numerous times with former vice president and current US president Joe Biden to discuss more ambitious approaches to fighting cancer, including conducting genomic sequencing of 100,000 patients to create a massive database of potential genetic factors.[[40]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-40)

In 2017, as announced by press secretary [Sean Spicer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sean_Spicer), then President-elect [Donald Trump](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Donald_Trump) met with Soon-Shiong at his [Bedminster, New Jersey](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bedminster,_New_Jersey) estate to discuss national medical priorities.[[41]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-41) In May 2017, Soon-Shiong was appointed by House Speaker [Paul Ryan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Ryan) to the [Health Information Technology Advisory Committee](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Health_Information_Technology_Advisory_Committee&action=edit&redlink=1), a committee established by the [21st Century Cures Act](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/21st_Century_Cures_Act).[[42]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-42)

In 2017, Soon-Shiong and his wife were invited by the [Smithsonian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smithsonian_Institution) to be part of the permanent exhibit "[Many Voices, One Nation](https://americanhistory.si.edu/visitor-guides/many-voices-one-nation)" in the West Wing of the Smithsonian museum in Washington DC.[[43]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-43)

In early 2021, Soon-Shiong merged a publicly traded company [NantKwest](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=NantKwest&action=edit&redlink=1" \o "NantKwest (page does not exist)) (NASDAQ: NK) with a privately held entity ImmunityBio (formerly NantCell).[[44]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-44) The new public entity after the merger is known as ImmunityBio, Inc. trading in NASDAQ under ticker symbol: IBRX.

By summer 2021, ImmunityBio had developed a [T cell](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/T_cell)-inducing universal [COVID-19](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/COVID-19) vaccine booster shot had reached Phase III trials in his native South Africa, with a stated goal of completely blocking transmission and stemming an endemic tide of COVID-19 variants.[[45]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-45) In December 2021, Dr. Soon-Shiong shared pre-clinical results of giving two different vaccine platforms ([heterologous](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heterologous_vaccine)) and showed beneficial [T cell](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/T_cell) levels using an [adenovirus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adenovirus_vaccine) and [mRNA](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MRNA) technology.[[46]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-46)

[40] <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/08/12/opinion/sway-kara-swisher-patrick-soon-shiong.html?showTranscript=1>

In September 2021, Soon-Shiong and President [Cyril Ramaphosa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyril_Ramaphosa) of South Africa announced via a virtual press conference a new venture called NantSA with NantWorks to expand the capability of vaccine development for Africa.[[47]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-47) NantWorks has signed a collaboration agreement with the South African government’s [Council for Scientific and Industrial Research](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Council_for_Scientific_and_Industrial_Research), the South African Medical Research Council ([SAMRC](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SAMRC)) and the Centre for Epidemic Response and Innovation.[[48]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-48)

In January 2022, Soon-Shiong opened a new manufacturing facility and campus in Cape Town, South Africa with President Ramaphosa.[[49]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-49) Soon-Shiong and his entities are reported to be investing over 4 billion RAND (~$250 million dollars) into the continent.[[50]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-50)

In Feb 2022, Soon-Shiong announced results from ImmunityBio regarding a clinical trial in Non-Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer ([NMIBC](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NMIBC)) with a 24.1 median duration and 71% complete remission.[[51]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-51)

Investments[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Patrick_Soon-Shiong&action=edit&section=3&editintro=Template:BLP_editintro)]

In 2013, Soon-Shiong became an early investor in [Zoom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zoom_(software)), a video conferencing company.[[52]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-52)

In September 2014, NantWorks LLC, a company headed by Soon-Shiong, invested $2.5 million in [AccuRadio](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AccuRadio" \o "AccuRadio).[[53]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-53)

In 2015, NantWorks LLC invested in Wibbitz in their $8 million series B funding.[[54]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-54)

In February 2018, the [*Los Angeles Times*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Los_Angeles_Times) reported that Soon-Shiong's investment firm NantCapital reached a deal to purchase the paper and [*The San Diego Union-Tribune*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_San_Diego_Union-Tribune) from [Tronc Inc.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tronc_Inc." \o "Tronc Inc.) for "nearly $500 million in cash" as well as the assumption of $90 million in pension obligations.[[55]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-55) Soon-Shiong, with this acquisition, became one of the first Asian-Americans to be a [media proprietor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Media_proprietor) through ownership in a major daily newspaper in the United States.[[56]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-56) The sale closed on June 18, 2018.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-Tronc-7)

In September 2018, his company [NantEnergy](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=NantEnergy&action=edit&redlink=1" \o "NantEnergy (page does not exist)) announced the development of a [zinc air battery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zinc%E2%80%93air_battery) with a projected cost of $100 per kilowatt-hour (less than one-third the cost of [lithium-ion batteries](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lithium-ion_battery)).[[57]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-57)

In 2019, Soon-Shiong became an investor in a graphene based technology company in Europe called [Directa Plus](https://www.directa-plus.com/). He is currently a 28% owner of the company.[[58]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-58)

In 2021, Soon-Shiong announced a new investment of $29 million in a [biorenewables](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Renewable_resource" \o "Renewable resource) company called [NantRenewables](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=NantRenewables&action=edit&redlink=1" \o "NantRenewables (page does not exist)) in SeaPoint, Savannah, Georgia.[[59]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-59)[[60]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-60)

In 2022, Soon-Shiong invested in Sienza, a lithium battery company in Pasadena, California.[[61]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-61)

Personal life[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Patrick_Soon-Shiong&action=edit&section=4&editintro=Template:BLP_editintro)]

Soon-Shiong is married to former actress [Michele B. Chan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michele_B._Chan). They have two children, including [Nika Soon-Shiong](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nika_Soon-Shiong), and live in Los Angeles, California.[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Soon-Shiong#cite_note-ForbesProfile-8) He is an avid basketball and football fan.

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