

Amgen buys deCODE: What are the implications for genetic testing customers?

The big biotech news of the day is the \$415 million sale of deCODE Genetics to Amgen. Coverage of the deal is everywhere, including a [typically excellent overview](#) from Matthew Herper of *Forbes*.

We've written extensively about deCODE here at the *Genomics Law Report* over the years, including the company's [well-publicized bankruptcy and privatization two years ago](#). That transaction left plenty of deCODE shareholders out in the cold, and those shareholders aren't likely to be feeling any better about things this winter.

Two years ago, questions were raised regarding [how the newly private deCODE would utilize one of its most noteworthy assets](#): its database of genetic and other personal health information about Icelandic citizens. Those questions are likely to resurface now, as Amgen seeks to extract \$415 million worth of a company that it bought – at least according to one of deCODE's owners – [in large part for access to deCODE's data](#). Expect the usual assurances, but remember that [those assurances are only as strong as the paper – and legal framework – upon which they are premised](#).

View the original article here: [Implications of Amgen/deCODE Deal for Genetic Testing Consumers](#)