

MI-MABS SIGNS A RESEARCH CONTRACT TO EVALUATE NOVEL BISPECIFIC ANTIBODIES CO-DEVELOPED BY INNATE PHARMA AND SANOFI

- This contract follows the agreement announced by Innate Pharma and Sanofi last January on the development of novel bispecific antibodies resulting from Innate Pharma's NK cells and Sanofi's technology and tumour targets.
- MI-mAbs will evaluate and validate the immuno-oncology potential of these new antibodies.

Marseille June 21st 2016, MI-mAbs, pre-industrial demonstrator to accelerate the development of new antibodies against cancer and inflammatory diseases, today announced the signing of a research contract with Innate Pharma and Sanofi. MI-mAbs will carry out studies to assess the effectiveness and safety of a new generation of bispecific antibodies resulting from the collaboration between the two manufacturers. Once this therapeutic window is validated, MI-mAbs will provide both partners with the list of the best antibody candidates for future clinical evaluations.

"This contract demonstrates the relevance of the MI-mAbs offer", said Professor Yvon Berland, President of Aix-Marseille University. "In addition to its mission as an innovation accelerator, MI-mAbs also enables our researchers and our Master students to access expertise and advanced technologies usually reserved for industrials. MI-mAbs is therefore at the core of the Marseille Immunopole cluster strategy, which aims to make our city not only a capital of immunotherapy research and development, but also a centre of education for fundamental and applied immunology".

"Because of their ability to force recognition of cancer cells by natural killer cells, bispecific antibodies raise the interest of industrials specializing in immuno-oncology, especially as they are beginning to demonstrate their clinical efficacy", said Professor François ROMAGNÉ, Scientific Director of MI-mAbs. "Still, their development also requires plenty of expertise and know-how, especially in pharmacology. By entrusting the selection and pharmacological validation of new bispecific antibodies to MI-mAbs, Innate Pharma and Sanofi demonstrate their confidence in our team".

About MI-mAbs

The MI-mAbs immunotechnology platform, pre-industrial demonstrator and a founding member of the Marseille Immunopole cluster, intends to accelerate the development of new antibodies against cancer and inflammatory diseases.

Open to therapeutic targets of academic research and the biopharmaceutical industry, MI-mAbs determines their expression profile, generates specific antibodies, characterises their mechanism of action and assesses their effectiveness and safety on *in vivo* models mimicking human diseases and on biological samples from patients. By validating the therapeutic potential of these new antibodies, MI-mAbs allows industrials to immediately focus their efforts on the most promising drug candidate.

Winner of the 2011 “Investissements d’Avenir » program in the pre-industrial demonstrators category, MI-mAbs was founded by Aix-Marseille University, which also ensures its administration through its Protisvalor subsidiary, CNRS, Inserm, the Institut Paoli -Calmettes, three of their research centres (CIML, CRCM Cipe), biopharmaceutical companies Innate Pharma and Sanofi, one of the global health leaders. It has the support of the DRRT PACA, the PACA Region, the County Council 13, Aix-Marseille Provence and Committee 13 of the French League against Cancer. MI-mAbs is located at the centre of the Marseille-Luminy science and technology park and is directed by Professor François Romagné. It has a staff of 20 persons.

More information at www.mimabs.org

Funders & Supporters



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