

## **PX'Therapeutics announces the signature of an agreement with Effimune for the development and production of therapeutic antibodies**

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Subsidiary of Aguetant pharmaceutical group, PX'Therapeutics, a CDMO committed to the development and production of recombinant proteins, and Effimune, biotech company dedicated to the research and development of therapeutic molecules regulating the immune system, announce the signature of an agreement for the development and production of antibody candidates within the scope of EFFIMAB consortium.

The objective of EFFIMAB project, co-financed by the Public Investment Bank (Bpifrance) is to develop a new generation of immunomodulatory antibodies targeting the interleukin-7 receptor (IL7R) in order to treat ulcerative colitis and T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.

PX'Therapeutics will first supply Effimune with several antibody batches to be tested in Proof-of-Concept studies by the Nantes Centre for Research in Transplantation and Immunology (CRTI/INSERM UMR 1064) and the Institute for Transplantation-Urology-Nephrology (ITUN), based in Nantes, as well as by the University Institute of Hematology (INSERM-UMR944) of the St Louis Hospital in Paris. Then, PX'Therapeutics will develop a stable cell line expressing the antibody of interest, based on its proprietary CHO cell line. PX'Therapeutics will finally ensure the production and release of GMP-grade antibody batches to be used in Phases 1 and 2 clinical trials, which will be conducted in the Paris Public Welfare Hospital (Assistance Publique–Hôpitaux de Paris) and the Lille Regional University Hospital Centre (CHRU de Lille).

### **EFFIMAB's partners:**

#### **PX'Therapeutics**

Based in Grenoble, PX'Therapeutics, a subsidiary of the Aguetant pharmaceutical group, is a biotech company specialising in the engineering and production of recombinant proteins, including monoclonal antibodies. Since its creation in 2000, PX'Therapeutics has played an extremely active role in the optimisation, development and production of target proteins and therapeutic candidates. As such, the company has built up a proven expertise in producing proteins with a high added-value for biotech companies and laboratories based in Europe and North America.

More information on [www.px-therapeutics.com](http://www.px-therapeutics.com)

#### **Effimune**

Based in Nantes (France), Effimune is a Biotech Company dedicated to the research and development of therapeutic molecules regulating the immune system. A member of the Atlanpole Biotherapies cluster, the company grew out of Nantes ITUN in December 2007. Effimune's main focus is on the development of therapeutic molecules for use in autoimmune diseases, certain cancers, and transplantation. The company has expertise in all the stages of development, starting from characterising the target, discovery of new molecules, proof of concept, fabrication of the pilot batch, the regulatory preclinical development and the clinical trials of stages I/II.

For further information, see [www.effimune.com](http://www.effimune.com)

#### **Centre for Research in Transplantation and Immunology, INSERM- Mixed Research Unit 1064**

Located in Nantes (France) and belonging to the University of Nantes, the CRTI/INSERM-UMR 1064 is directed by Dr Ignacio Anegón. The centre is specialised in the analysis and control of immune response in transplantation and in autoimmunity. The centre has 150 researchers and technicians.

**INSERM Unité Mixte de Recherche 944**

Located in Paris, the INSERM-UMR 944, directed by Pr Jean Soulier, is part of the University Institute of Hematology of the St Louis Hospital in Paris and specialises in research into acute leukaemia. The team has a genomics platform and has put in place *in vitro* and *in vivo* tools for the functional study of human leukaemias, tools which will be utilised to test the EFFIMAB antibodies.

**The Assistance Publique – Hôpitaux de Paris – St Louis**

The AP-HP is the largest university hospital in Europe, combining 17 hospitals in 12 hospital groups. In addition to its role in care and training, research and innovation are at the core of the AP-HP's strategy having, as it does, over 2700 research projects running. Within the EFFIMAB framework, the Department of Blood Diseases, directed by Pr. Hervé Dombret, with its strong experience in acute lymphoblastic leukaemia and clinical research, will be in charge of the clinical trials in phase IIa.

**Lille Regional University Hospital Centre (CHRU de Lille)**

The Lille CHRU is the only University Hospital in the Nord-Pas de Calais region. It carries out three missions: patient care, teaching, and training health professional with the objective of guaranteeing highly-technical care, innovation and research aimed at putting in place innovative diagnostic and therapeutic approaches. The department of digestive diseases and nutrition is directed by Pr Pierre Desreumaux, who has proven expertise in research into diseases of the digestive tract. The Lille CHRU has established experience in this domain, from frontier research to clinical research. It has the largest national cohort of patients with inflammatory bowel diseases, such as ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease, and has established partnerships with Louvain Hospital, Belgium, adding a European dimension to this expertise.

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