

Evaluation agreement with Institut Pasteur to validate ICANtibodies[™] as an alternative platform technology to discover antibodies

Nantes – France, 4th February, 2014 – In-Cell-Art, a biotechnology company specializing in nanocarrier technologies called Nanotaxi® for macromolecules delivery (DNA, RNA, Protein), announces the evaluation agreement with Institut Pasteur to validate ICANtibodies™, a fully integrated antibodies discovery process without peptide and recombinant protein (from plasmid DNA antigen design and synthesis, Nanotaxi®/plasmid formulation and immunization in various species, to antibody quality controls) as an alternative platform technology to discover antibodies against challenging targets. The figure below is the schematic presentation of ICANtibodies™. The financial terms of this agreement are not disclosed.



Nanotaxi®, the proprietary In-Cell-Art formulations, makes ICANtibodies™ unique compared to other genetic immunization-based antibodies discovery (e.g. gene gun) since Nanotaxi® dramatically increases expression of the gene-encoded antigen and hugely stimulates the innate immune system through an unique delivery mechanism. The combination of these two properties allows the Nanotaxi® to generate powerful immune responses and antibodies of interest even against extremely difficult targets such as complex of integral membrane proteins and proteins with high homology. Discovered antibodies are of high quality with high specificity and high affinity (~pM).

Bruno Pitard, co-founder of In-Cell-Art, said "In-Cell-Art is very excited to reach this agreement with a world's leading research institution since it will prove that ICANtibodies™ is a way for a number of scientists to break through in challenges to discover rare antibodies. Once Institut Pasteur confirms its interest in ICANtibodies™, In-Cell-Art is ready to develop other joint projects and contribute to the research activities of Institut Pasteur".

About In-Cell-Art

In-Cell-Art (ICA), which is headquartered in Nantes (France) is a biopharmaceutical company specializing in the preclinical and pharmaceutical development of nanocarriers named Nanotaxi ® for macromolecular drugs. Its founder and research team, which includes a Nobel Laureate, have designed new classes of vectors that are organized on a nanometric scale, which enables them to cross the cell barrier

efficiently and safely. In-Cell-Art offers a range of reagents and biotechnology development services:

1. ICANtibodies™

In the absence of recombinant antigen, ICANtibodies[™] allows, from an in silico DNA antigenic sequence, the production of the most ambitious functional antibodies against any natively expressed nuclear, cytoplasmic, secreted or membrane proteins. ICANtibodies[™] has allowed, in less than 3 years, the production of more than 300 different functional antibodies. In-Cell-Art has worked with a number of pharmaceutical firms (Sanofi, GlaxoSmithKline, Geneuro etc.) and public research institutions and universities (Institut Cochin, Cancer Research UK, Institute of Neurology UK etc).

2. ICA Nanotaxi®

DNA Vaccine

ICA614 Nanotaxi®, an innovative DNA synthetic formulation, offers unique efficient and industrial features such as the dramatic enhancement of the immunogenicity of plasmid DNA-encoding tumours or pathogen-derived antigens, a reduction in the dose of plasmid DNA, as well as an excellent safety profile. ICA614 Nanotaxi® represents a crucial step in DNA vaccine development, and is currently being tested by major vaccine companies (Sanofi-Pasteur, Merial etc.).

· mRNA Vaccine

Some other ICA Nanotaxi® are also being assessed in \$33.1 million RN-ARMORVAX consortium, co-funded by US Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). The consortium would validate the new application of ICA Nanotaxi® for mRNA-based vaccines for infectious diseases in collaboration with CureVac and Sanofi-Pasteur.

mRNA Replacement Therapy

Some other ICA Nanotaxi® are also developed to improve the limited efficacy and stability of mRNA therapeutics, leading to the dramatic increase in therapeutic protein expression without DNA-encoded gene.

3. ICAFectin® transfection reagents

ICAFectin® transfection reagents are innovative breakthrough synthetic vectors for in vitro nucleic acid delivery. They are becoming the reagents of choice for efficient DNA and siRNA transfections as demonstrated by their increasing use in numerous studies published in high impact factor journals including Journal of Biological

Chemistry, Nucleic Acids Research, PLOS ONE, PLOS Pathogen, Human Gene Therapy and more.

In-Cell-Art is a privately held company, which was founded in 2005. It is a member of the Atlanpole Biotherapies high-tech cluster of biotechnology companies in western France.

For further information please contact;

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