

Inventiva reaches a new step in its technology development by gaining support from the European program Eurostars

- ***European funding awarded to the €4.8 million budget of EMTherapy consortium***
- ***Development of a research program to build a world-class European epigenetics platform***

Daix (France), December 3, 2015 - Inventiva, a biopharmaceutical company specialised in transcription factors and epigenetics for innovative therapies within the fields of fibrosis, oncology and orphan diseases, today announces a grant has been obtained by the EMTherapy consortium under the Eurostars program to cover part of the €4.8 million budget. Eurostars supports highly innovative SMEs involved in international collaborative schemes such as EMTherapy's epigenetics project.

EMTherapy is a consortium bringing together Inventiva and two other European biotechnological companies – 4SC in Germany and Oryzon Genomics in Spain. The project aims to develop epigenetic targets-inhibiting compounds, particularly in oncology, and to build a world-class epigenetics platform in Europe.

Frédéric Cren, Chief Executive Officer and co-founder of Inventiva, comments: *“This European grant covers a significant share of the EMTherapy consortium budget and testifies of our technology model's prevalence in epigenetics, one of the most promising areas of research in oncology. Following the funding received from the highly selective French national research agency for our Epicure partnership with the Institut Curie, Inventiva is now establishing itself as a European leader in epigenetics application within the development of new cancer therapies.”*

Inventiva's role in EMTherapy focuses on NSD2 epigenetic target, which is responsible for oncogenesis in an aggressive form of multiple myeloma affecting 15 to 20% of the 114,000 patients¹ contracting this cancer every year. Inventiva has confirmed the role of NSD2 in a human cancer cell model and established its potential as a therapeutic target. Based on the use of its proprietary molecule library, the company has also identified drug-like molecules that are able to inhibit NSD2 activity. These compounds are currently being optimised by Inventiva's chemistry teams ahead of demonstrating *in vivo* proof of concept.

Epigenetics is one of the most promising therapeutic approaches in oncology. In 2000, only 250 publications were registered in the field. Ten years later, 1,500 are published every year. Epigenetics studies the mechanisms involved in genes regulation, which are essential for cells in preserving their identity. Numerous epigenetic mechanisms cause genetic disorders, leading to abnormal activation of genes and the onset of cancer. The epigenetic alterations observed in a tumour include histone methylation and acetylation as well as direct DNA methylation.

¹ International Agency for Research on Cancer, GLOBOCAN 2012 database. Available from: <http://globocan.iarc.fr>

About Inventiva

Inventiva is a biopharmaceutical company specialised in transcription factors and epigenetics delivering breakthrough therapeutic solutions for fibrosis, cancer and orphan diseases for which no effective treatment exists.

IVA337, its lead product, is an anti-fibrotic treatment currently in Phase IIb clinical trials. IVA337 has a unique mechanism of action activating all of the α , δ and γ PPARs (peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor) at multiple entry points. Its anti-fibrotic action targets two indications for which exist substantial unmet medical needs: NASH (Non Alcoholic Steatohepatitis), a severe and increasingly prevalent liver disease already affecting over 30 million people in the United States, and systemic sclerosis, a disease with a very high mortality rate and for which there is no approved treatment.

Inventiva is also developing IVA336, a clinical candidate for the treatment of Maroteaux-Lamy syndrome, an oncology portfolio and has formed partnerships with world-leading research entities and pharmaceutical groups, such as the Institut Curie and AbbVie. The strategic partnership with AbbVie provides Inventiva with full eligibility for milestone payments and royalties, should the drug be commercialised.

Headquartered near Dijon, Inventiva employs over 100 highly qualified individuals and owns state-of-the-art R&D facilities, acquired from the international pharmaceutical group Abbott, comprising a library of over 240,000 molecules as well as biology, chemistry and pharmacology platforms. In 2014, the company generated €3.3 million in revenues.

For further information: www.inventivapharma.com

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