



## **In-Cell-Art Appoints Leading Experts to Form Scientific Advisory Board**

**Nantes – France, 16th of October, 2014** – In-Cell-Art (ICA), a biotechnology company specializing in nanocarrier technologies called Nanotaxi® for macromolecules (DNA, mRNA, Protein) has announced today the formation of its Scientific Advisory Board headed by Bruno Pitard. The appointed members will serve as a strategic resource to accelerate ICA's R&D activities.

Martine Rondeau, CEO of In-Cell-Art, said “The addition of those internationally recognized experts to our team brings a world-class of expertise in the field of supramolecular chemistry, physico-chemical properties of self-assembled systems and pharmaceutical development. This Scientific Advisory Board contributes to supporting the company to develop new biotherapeutics and keep our platform, ICA's Nanotaxi®, at the cutting edge. This underlines our commitment to be a global leader in the field of intracellular macromolecule delivery for the development of novel biotherapeutics”.

The members of the Scientific Advisory Board are:

- Jean-Marie LEHN, Ph.D., Professor of Chemistry at the Collège de France (Paris, France); Director of Laboratoire de Chimie Supramoléculaire ISIS (Strasbourg, France); Emeritus Professor at the University of Strasbourg (Strasbourg, France); Nobel Laureate in Chemistry; co-founder of In-Cell-Art.
- Didier ROUX PhD., Vice President of R & D and Innovation at Saint Gobain; member of French Académie des Sciences and the National Academy of Technologies of France; former Deputy Scientific Director of Rhône-Poulenc Santé (now Sanofi) and Rhodia; Silver Medal Laureate of CNRS
- Luc AUJAME, PhD., former Senior Director in External R&D for Europe in Sanofi Pasteur; former Head of Molecular Biology at Institut Merieux (now Sanofi Pasteur); former assistant professor at the University of Ottawa and Queen's University in Canada
- Bruno PITARD, PhD., Director of the team Innovation in biotherapies at Institut de Recherche en Santé de l'Université de Nantes (Unité CNRS6291/INSERM1087); member of Scientific Advisory Board at Vaincre la Mucoviscidose, French Cystic Fibrosis Foundation; former scientist at Sanofi for the Gene Therapy program and

in Sanofi Pasteur for the DNA vaccine program; Associate editor of Current Gene Therapy. Co-founder of In-Cell-Art.

- Georges Bernard GUILLOU, MD., President of BDE&A Consulting; former Director of Pharmaceutical R&D and Scientific Affairs & Licensing at Laboratoires Pharmascience; former Director of the Clinical Research Department at Fidia-France; former Research Project Leader and Scientific/Clinical advisor at Rhône-Poulenc Santé (now Sanofi)

## **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.

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