



In-Cell-Art Antibody Discovery Program for production of antibodies for Stallergenes research activities

Nantes – France, 24 of July, 2013 – In-Cell-Art, a biotechnology company specializing in nanocarrier technologies called Nanotaxi® for macromolecules delivery (DNA, RNA, Protein), announces today the collaboration with Stallergenes, world leader in allergen immunotherapy, for the production of new antibodies for Stallergenes research programs. Under this program, In-Cell-Art performs a fully integrated antibodies discovery process named ICANTibodies™ without peptide and recombinant protein (from plasmid DNA antigen design and synthesis, Nanotaxi®/plasmid formulation and immunization in various species, to antibody quality controls). The following figure shows the process of ICANTibodies™. The financial terms of this agreement are not disclosed.



Nanotaxi®, the proprietary In-Cell-Art formulations, makes ICANTibodies™ distinct from other genetic immunization-based antibodies discovery since Nanotaxi® dramatically increases expression of the gene-encoded antigen, and in addition hugely stimulates the innate immune system via a unique delivery mechanism. The combination of these two properties allows the Nanotaxi® to generate powerful immune responses, and subsequently 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 pleased to reach this agreement with Stallergenes with more than 50 years of experience in the field of allergen immunotherapy. It evaluates ICANTibodies™ as a way to break through in challenges to develop antibody for research purposes. Since 2010 (the launch of ICANTibodies™), we have succeeded in plenty of projects from academics and pharmaceutical firms which were not successful by alternative technologies. As simple and easy targets have been already exploited, In-Cell-Art believes that currently market needs are more for antibodies discovery against complex targets which require an innovative solution like ICANTibodies™”.

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 250 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.

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.

About Stallergenes

Stallergenes is an international biopharmaceutical company dedicated to the treatment of allergy-related respiratory diseases, such as severe rhinoconjunctivitis and rhinitis, as well as allergic asthma, using allergen immunotherapy. The leader in sublingual immunotherapy treatment, Stallergenes devotes around 20% of its annual gross sales to Research & Development and is actively involved in the development of sublingual immunotherapy tablets. In 2012, the company generated sales of € 240 million, and more than 500,000 patients were treated with Stallergenes products.

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