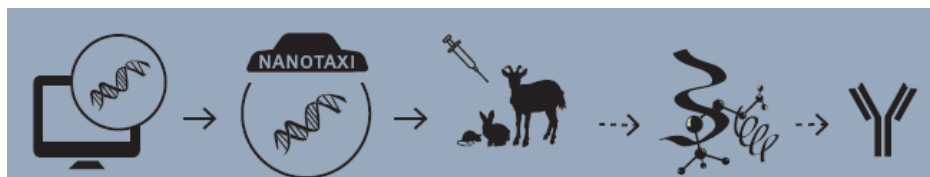




In-Cell-Art Announces a Master Services Agreement with One of Top 5 Global Pharmas to discover Potential Antibodies Medicines

Nantes – France, 24 of May, 2018 – In-Cell-Art (ICA), a biotechnology company specialized in nanocarrier technologies named Nanotaxi® designed to unlock the promise of nucleic acids to treat acquired or inherited diseases, announces today the signature with one of the top 5 global pharmas of a Master Services Agreement for the use of ICANtibodies™ to immunize transgenic animals for the discovery of fully human antibodies with potential therapeutic use in human. ICANtibodies™ is 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). The figure below is the process of ICANtibodies™.



Nanotaxi®, the proprietary In-Cell-Art formulations, makes ICANtibodies™ unique compared to other genetic immunization-based antibodies discovery since Nanotaxi® dramatically increases expression of the gene-encoded antigen and hugely stimulates the innate immune system through a 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 pleased to reach this Master Services Agreement with a world’s leading pharmaceutical firm evaluating ICANtibodies™ as a way to break through in challenges to validate targets and develop antibody medicines. In In-Cell-Art history, we have succeeded in quite a few 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 at present 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. ICA Nanotaxi® technology displays unique properties for development of:

•DNA Vaccines

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 GMP fill/finish of ICA614 Nanotaxi®, as well as regulatory-enabling GLP safety evaluation of ICA614 Nanotaxi® alone HEPAVAC (Hepatocellular vaccine candidate) have been achieved successfully.

•mRNA Vaccines

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 Therapies

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.

•Therapeutic antibodies

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.

In-Cell-Art is a privately held company, which was founded in 2005, laureate in 2012 and 2013 of the Fast 50 Deloitte award, and in 2013 of Territoires Innovation Pays de la Loire Awards. It is a member of the Atlanpole Biotherapies high-tech cluster of biotechnology companies in western France.

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