

PRESS RELEASE

FIRST IN MAN

in acute leukemias

with an ADC targeting cancer cells

Marseille, June 7, 2022.

The Paoli-Calmettes Institute launched a phase 1 study of an Antibody-Drug Conjugate (ADC). Developed by the French biotech Inatherys, a tech transfer from academic research, and in close collaboration with the Paoli-Calmettes Institute (IPC), the new treatment INA03 is now in a phase 1 study sponsored by IPC.

The phase I study of INA03 is being conducted in acute leukemias, a world premiere.

INA03 is an innovative ADC binding to a receptor (CD71), which is strongly expressed on highly proliferative cells such as cancer cells. It destroys cancer cells in a targeted manner by releasing a toxin that blocks dividing cells.

The Paoli-Calmettes Institute is the sponsor of this study, and responsible for its completion. This underlines the innovation and the commitment of the French academic centers to offer new approaches for patients, who are in the advanced phase of their disease and have no therapeutic alternative. The preliminary results of this new immunotherapy strategy are encouraging. No toxicity has been observed so far. Dose escalation as defined by the study protocol continues, to determine the optimal dose that will be used in future clinical trials.

“After more than fifteen years of fundamental research on the study of the development of cancer cells, we have demonstrated and validated their energy dependence on iron through the transferrin receptor. We have used this receptor to introduce in a targeted manner, via our monoclonal antibody, a toxin that blocks the proliferation of tumor cells and induces their destruction. We are delighted by our collaboration with IPC in this first clinical study with our “first-in-class” ADC in patients suffering from acute leukemias refractory to traditional treatments.” says Dr Pierre Launay, co-founder and CEO of Inatherys.

For Prof. Norbert VEY, Principal Investigator, *“This is a major project for the IPC: from a medical point of view, because an ADC has never been used before and offers hope to patients; from a partnership point of view as well, because very few academic centers have the opportunity to conduct “first-in-human” trials themselves, which are generally carried out by pharma companies. This partnership, which falls within the objectives of the Institute Carnot OPALÉ, of which the IPC/CRCM is a member, offers new perspectives to evaluate novel therapeutic approaches and support start-ups that do not always have the resources to set up this type of project.”*

About Inatherys

Inatherys was incorporated in 2009, based on the research conducted at Inserm and CNRS, in the laboratories of Professors Olivier Hermine and Renato Monteiro (co-founders of Inatherys) on the transferrin receptor (CD71), responsible for supplying cells with iron and CD89, the IgA receptor which is involved in the regulation of the inflammatory reaction. Its most advanced molecule in development, INA03, is an anti-CD71 ADC, currently in phase 1 for patients with relapsed acute leukemia.

For more informations : www.inatherys.com

About IPC

Certified by the Haute Autorité de Santé (HAS) in 2021 with “High Quality of Care” mention, the highest level of certification, and accredited Comprehensive Cancer Center by the OECl (Organization of European Cancer Institutes) in June 2019, the Institut Paoli-Calmettes is a member of the Unicancer network. The IPC brings together 1,800 medical and non-medical staff, involved in the comprehensive management of all cancer pathologies: research, medical and support care, education and training. The IPC carried out more than 100,000 consultations and welcomed nearly 11,000 new patients in 2020. Coverage at the IPC is carried out exclusively on the basis of French social security tariff, with no out of the pocket fees. The IPC has collaborations with around twenty health centers in the region.

For more information : www.institutpaolicalmettes.fr

To follow us : 

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