

Stimunity Announces Two H2020 Grants Supporting Our Progress Toward the Clinic

Paris, October 21 – Stimunity, the cancer immunotherapy company focused on STING, is pleased to announce that the European Commission, in its Horizon 2020 framework, has approved two grants supporting Stimunity's work toward its entry into the clinic.

Stimunity's scientists have generated additional proof-of-concept data on its lead product demonstrating a differentiated mechanism of action for stimulating the immune system and improving anti-tumoral response. The lead asset is progressing toward the clinic and additional products are being tested with support from these two H2020 grants.

Stimunity received a H2020 SME Instrument phase 1 grant. This will finance additional preclinical experiments and prepare the company to apply for the phase 2 grant which can go up to 2,5 M€.

Stimunity also received a H2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant as part of an international consortium INITIATE "European Training Network on Exploring Immunometabolism Pathways as the Basis for Innovative Anti-Viral Strategies" that receives in total 4M€ funding. This brings additional funding but also a network of worldwide experts in the field of innate immunity. The consortium is composed of 7 top-class institutions (Trinity College Dublin, Leiden University Medical Center, Research Center for Molecular Medicine of Austrian Academy of Sciences, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Utrecht University, Istituto Pasteur – Rome Sapienza University, Erasmus Medical Center in Rotterdam) and 3 private companies (Janssen Vaccines, AstraZeneca, Stimunity). The company will have 3-year PhD program that will focus on investigating and validating new mechanism of action of Stimunity's cGAMP-VLP technology and will look for new VLP constructs to complete Stimunity's pipeline of drugs.

About INITIATE Consortium



INITIATE (Innate-Immunometablism as Antiviral Target) is an innovative training network funded by the European Commission with the goal to train a new generation of young researchers in the emerging field of antiviral immunometabolism.

Viral replication, metabolic pathways and host immune responses are tightly interconnected and the molecular pathways and impact on viral pathogenesis are not well-defined which will be the focus of the INITIATE research project.

INITIATE brings together world leaders in virology, inflammation, innate immunity, and immunometabolism to educate a new generation of research scientists with interdisciplinary expertise in virology, immunology, and immunometabolism. INITIATE includes partners from 7 academic institutes and 3 industrial partners from 7 countries. The consortium will host 15 PhD students – Early Stage Researchers (ESRs), each performing an individual research project at one of the partners.

About Horizon 2020



The European Commission launched in 2014 a very ambitious program to support top-class research on the long-term, entitled Horizon 2020 with a 79 billion € budget. SME Instrument is a specific call open to small and medium companies and is highly competitive with an overall success rate of ~10%. There are 2 stages: phase 1 covers feasibility studies, and phase 2 covers industrialization with grants up to 2,5M€.

More information at: <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en>

About Stimunity



Stimunity is an early-stage research and development company focused on the development of biological STING agonists in cancer. The technology, licensed from Institut Curie, Inserm, and University of Oxford, is based on a unique biologic approach which combines the endogenous STING activator encapsulated in a Virus-Like Particle (VLP). Stimunity's drug is best-in-class, and activates the innate immune system, enhances T-cell response against tumor cells, and restores immune-checkpoint inhibitors potency.

More information at: <https://stimunity.com> or contact@stimunity.com.