

LimmaTech Biologics AG and University Hospital of Basel Receive Innosuisse Grant

Schlieren (Zurich), 1 July 2020 - LimmaTech Biologics AG, a clinical-stage biotech company developing next generation therapeutics and vaccines, has received a non-dilutive public grant from the Swiss Innovation Agency (Innosuisse) of more than CHF 800'000. LimmaTech, through its GlycoEra business unit, will use the grant to develop highly cancer-specific antibodies and evaluate their immunotherapeutic potential in cooperation with the Laboratory for Cancer Immunotherapy at the University Hospital of Basel, headed by Professor Dr. Heinz Läubli.

Successful cancer immunotherapy requires antibodies binding to targets that are specifically displayed on cancer cells and are absent on healthy cells. Although cancer-specific carbohydrate antigens are very promising targets for immunotherapy, they are underrepresented due to the difficulty of developing suitable antibodies targeting this class of antigen. LimmaTech Biologics' antibody development platform and the team's experience in glycoengineering overcome these problems, enabling the development of effective therapeutic antibodies. University Hospital Basel's Laboratory of Cancer Immunotherapy will be responsible for establishing state of the art tumor models and in-depth functional characterization of the antibodies, enabling rapid transition into the clinical phase.

Dr. Amir Faridmoayer, LimmaTech CSO and co-founder commented: "we are excited to use our extensive know-how in glycoengineering to join the fight against cancer. The Innosuisse funds provide a unique opportunity to use our novel CustomGlycan Platform to develop highly potent monoclonal antibodies in oncology. Combining the extensive expertise of Professor Dr. Heinz Läubli's team in clinical cancer research and LimmaTech's glycoengineering capabilities allows us to bridge the gap between glycobiology knowledge and drug development. We are confident that together we can start a new chapter in glycan-based immunotherapy".

Professor Dr. Heinz Läubli, Head of the Laboratory for Cancer Immunotherapy, stated: "LimmaTech's know-how in glycoengineering and the capabilities of the CustomGlycan Platform enable us to tackle the challenges that have previously hindered the development of therapies against glycan antigens in oncology."

PD Dr. Heinz Läubli MD PhD is a medical oncologist, a specialist in clinical immunotherapy and cancer immunology investigating the role of new pathways to treat solid cancers by enhancing anti-tumor immunity with a particular interest in manipulating the interactions of glycans and lectins. He heads the Laboratory for Cancer Immunotherapy in the Department of Biomedicine at the University Hospital of Basel.

GlycoEra is a business unit of LimmaTech Biologics AG, specializing in glycoengineering therapeutic proteins with the proprietary CustomGlycan Platform. LimmaTech Biologics AG is an independent, clinical stage biopharmaceutical company focused on the development and manufacturing of next generation pharmaceuticals using glycoengineering and protein glycosylation techniques. The company fosters and employs innovative ways of engineering complex carbohydrate structures and is at the forefront of *in vivo* development of novel glycoengineering platforms. www.lmtbio.com