

Antwerpen / Marseille, 04. Dezember 2019, 6:45 MEZ

## **ImCheck Therapeutics erhält 53 Millionen US-Dollar bei Serie-B-Runde – Gimv erhöht Investments im Bereich Immunonkologie**

Im Rahmen einer Serie-B-Finanzierungsrunde in gesamter Höhe von 53 Millionen US-Dollar hat Gimv seinen Anteil an ImCheck Therapeutics, einem aufstrebenden Anbieter von Onkologie- und Autoimmuntherapie-Lösungen aus Frankreich, erhöht. Die Runde wird angeführt von Pfizer Ventures (NYSE: PFE) sowie Bpifrance und wird um neue Investoren ergänzt. Neben Gimv haben sich auch die Bestandsinvestoren Life Sciences Partners (LSP), Idinvest Partners, Kurma Partners und Boehringer Ingelheim Venture Fund zu einem wesentlichen Teil an der Erhöhung beteiligt.

Die Mittel aus der Serie-B-Runde werden zur Finanzierung von ersten klinischen Studien zu monoklonalen First-in-Class-Antikörpern ICT01 von ImCheck Therapeutics verwendet. So sollen die breite Pipeline an Immunmodulatoren für die sogenannte Butyrophiline-Superfamilie weiter ausgebaut und neue Antikörpertherapien im Bereich Immunonkologie für Kliniken verfügbar gemacht werden.

**Bram Vanparys, Partner bei Gimv und für das Investment auf der Health & Care-Plattform verantwortlich,** sagt: *„ImCheck hat seit unserem Investment im Rahmen der Serie-A-Runde bedeutende Fortschritte gemacht. Daher freuen wir uns, eine Reihe an neuen namhaften Investoren aus den USA und Europa für die Serie-B-Runde gewonnen zu haben. Die Beteiligung von Gimv in signifikanter Höhe an dieser Finanzierungsrunde zeigt, welches Potential in der Pipeline von ImCheck an Lösungen für den Onkologie- und Autoimmuntherapie-Bereich steckt.“*

Weitere Informationen in englischer Sprache finden Sie in der Pressemitteilung von ImCheck Therapeutics im Anhang.

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### **ÜBER GIMV**

Gimv ist eine europäische Investmentgesellschaft mit fast 40 Jahren Erfahrung in Private Equity. Das Unternehmen ist an der Euronext Brüssel notiert, verwaltet derzeit rund 1,2 Mrd. EUR und investiert aktuell in 50 Portfoliogesellschaften, die gemeinsam einen Umsatz von mehr als 2,5 Mrd. EUR realisieren und 14.000 Mitarbeiter beschäftigen.

Gimv identifiziert innovative, führende Gesellschaften, die über hohes Wachstumspotenzial verfügen, und unterstützt diese auf ihrem Weg zur Marktführerschaft. Jede der vier Investmentplattformen Connected Consumer, Health & Care, Smart Industries und Sustainable Cities wird von einem engagierten und kompetenten Team betreut, das jeweils in den heimischen Märkten von Gimv - Benelux, Frankreich und DACH - ansässig ist und von einem umfassenden internationalen Experten-Netzwerk unterstützt wird.

Weitere Informationen über Gimv finden Sie auf [www.gimv.com](http://www.gimv.com).

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Weitere Informationen erhalten Sie von:

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**UNDER EMBARGO until 6:45 am CET/1:30 am EST Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2019**

## ImCheck Raises \$53 Million Series B to Advance Clinical Pipeline of Novel Gamma Delta T-Cell-Focused Antibodies for Cancer and Autoimmune Diseases

-- Bpifrance and Pfizer Ventures co-led international investor syndicate --

**Marseille, France, December 04, 2019, 6:45 AM CET** – ImCheck Therapeutics, a biotech company developing a first-in-class antibody to activate gamma delta ( $\gamma\delta$ ) T cells in a range of cancer indications and a portfolio of novel immunotherapies for the treatment of cancer and autoimmune diseases, announced today the closing of a \$53 million (€48 million) Series B financing round. The round was co-led by Pfizer Ventures, the venture capital arm of Pfizer Inc. (NYSE: PFE), and Bpifrance through its InnoBio 2\* and Large Venture funds and joined by new investors Wellington Partners, Agent Capital and Alexandria Venture Investments. Life Sciences Partners (LSP), Gimv, Idinvest Partners, Kurma Partners and Boehringer Ingelheim Venture Fund that contributed to the 2017 €20 Million Series A round also participated for a significant portion of this raise. The proceeds of the Series B will be used to fund the initial clinical trial for ImCheck's first-in-class monoclonal antibody ICT01, to further expand the company's broad pipeline of immunomodulators targeting the butyrophilins super-family and to bring additional immuno-oncology antibody programs into the clinic.

*"ImCheck's first clinical trial starting next year with ICT01 is based on comprehensive translational research supporting its potential to activate  $\gamma\delta$  T cells to kill malignant cells. The Series B funding, bringing the total capital raised in 2.5 years to nearly \$80 million, allows us to accelerate the development of our unique immuno-oncology pipeline, further investigate the potential of our antibodies in autoimmune disease, and establish clinical operations and corporate development activities in the US,"* **said Pierre d'Epenoux, Chief Executive Officer at ImCheck Therapeutics.**

ImCheck's Board of Directors will transition to include Michael Baran from Pfizer Ventures, Thibaut Roulon from Bpifrance, Regina Hodits from Wellington, Rémi Droller from Kurma, Vincent Brichard from LSP, Bram Vanparys from Gimv, Debasish Roychowdhury as independent Chairman and Pierre d'Epenoux, CEO of ImCheck.

*"We believe that furthering the understanding of  $\gamma\delta$  T cell activation could provide the basis for an area of research that could have tremendous potential for treating patients with certain cancers and autoimmune diseases, and we are pleased to be co-leaders in this financing round,"* **commented Michael Baran, PhD, MBA, Principal, Pfizer Ventures and Executive Director, External Science & Innovation, Pfizer.**

*"ImCheck has produced a pipeline of first-in-class immuno-modulatory antibodies targeting  $\gamma\delta$  T cells and built a world-class drug development organization with a significant potential to expand the current immune-modulatory arsenal against cancer,"* **added Thibaut Roulon, PhD, Investment Director at Bpifrance.**

*"We are very pleased to add these top tier institutional and strategic investors from both the US and EU in the closing of our Series B financing,"* **commented Debasish Roychowdhury, MD, Chairman of**

**ImCheck Board of Directors.** *"We believe this investment represents a strong validation of our pipeline and its potential both in cancer and autoimmune diseases."*

Legal counsel for the Series B transaction provided by Dentons Europe and Dechert LLP. Investor relations support provided by Trophic Communications. French media and communications support provided by ATCG.

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### **About IMCHECK THERAPEUTICS**

ImCheck Therapeutics is designing and developing a new generation of immunotherapy antibodies positioned at the crossroads of two high-potential immunological fields:  $\gamma\delta$  T cells and a novel super-family of immunomodulators, butyrophilins.

Due to their mechanism of action, and notably their ability to simultaneously modulate innate and adaptive immunity, ImCheck's "first-in-class" activating antibodies may be able to produce superior clinical results as compared to the first-generation of immune checkpoint inhibitors and when used in combination to overcome the resistance to this group of agents. In addition, preclinical experiments with ImCheck's antagonist antibodies have demonstrated potential as treatments for a wide range of autoimmune diseases.

Co-founder of the Marseille Immunopole cluster, ImCheck benefits from support from Prof. Daniel Olive (INSERM, CNRS, Institut Paoli Calmettes, Aix-Marseille Université), a worldwide leader in  $\gamma\delta$  T cells and butyrophilins research; from the experience of an expert management team; and from the commitment of leading US and European investors.

For further information on ImCheck: <http://www.imchecktherapeutics.com> and [@ImCheckThx](https://twitter.com/ImCheckThx)

For further information on the participating funds:

Bpifrance: <https://www.bpifrance.com/>

Pfizer Ventures: <https://www.pfizerventures.com/>

Wellington Partners: <https://www.wellington-partners.com/ls/>

Agent Capital: <https://www.agentcapital.com/>

Alexandria Venture Investments: <http://www.are.com/venture-investments.html>

Life Science Partners: <https://www.lspvc.com/>

Gimv: <https://www.gimv.com/en>

Idinvest Partners: <https://www.idinvest.com/en/activities/venture-capital/healthcare>

Kurma Partners: <http://www.kurmapartners.com/>

Boehringer Ingelheim Venture Fund: <https://www.boehringer-ingelheim-venture.com/>

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