

Antwerpen / Dublin, 19 November 2020, 7u30 CET (EMBARGO)

Gimv investeert in SynOx Therapeutics dat 37 miljoen EUR ophaalt voor de ontwikkeling van emactuzumab voor de behandeling van tenosynoviale tumoren

Gimv investeert in het nieuw opgerichte SynOx Therapeutics via een Serie A-investeringsronde van 37 miljoen EUR, samen met HealthCap, Medicxi en Forbion. SynOx zal de ontwikkeling van emactuzumab verderzetten nadat het wereldwijd de rechten voor de ontwikkeling, productie en commercialisering van emactuzumab heeft verworven in het kader van een licentieovereenkomst met Roche.

Emactuzumab is een potentieel best-in-class klinische fase CSF-1R gericht antilichaam dat ontworpen is om macrofagen in tumorweefsel aan te pakken en uit te putten. De testen vertoonden tot dusver gunstige resultaten op het vlak van veiligheid en werkzaamheid bij patiënten met diffuse tenosynoviale tumoren (dTGCT), een zeldzame oncologische aandoening. Kenmerkend voor deze aandoening zijn pijn, zwelling en bewegingsbeperkingen met een aanzienlijke invloed op de levenskwaliteit van de getroffen patiënten. De vrij agressieve ziekte treft naar schatting zowat 70 000 patiënten in de VS en de EU, de diagnose stelt zich veelal bij mensen in de leeftijdscategorie van 20-50 jaar.

De fondsen uit deze financieringsronde zullen worden ingezet voor het verdere onderzoek van emactuzumab, om een behandelingsoptie voor dTGCT-patiënten te ontwikkelen.

Bram Vanparys, Partner bij Gimv, licht toe: *"We zijn zeer tevreden met deze nieuwe investering, die perfect aansluit bij onze Life Sciences strategie. Ons team richt zich op het oplossen van onbeantwoorde medische noden door te investeren in veelbelovende preklinische of klinische fase moleculen en platformen met first-in-class of best-in-class potentieel."*

Michaël Vlemmix, Principal bij Gimv, vult aan: *"We kijken ernaar uit om een therapie op de markt te brengen voor patiënten die vandaag slechts beperkte behandelingsmogelijkheden hebben. Emactuzumab heeft zijn waarde al bewezen bij diffuse TGCT-patiënten, de tijd is rijp om de ontwikkeling ervan verder te zetten en af te ronden. Ik kijk er naar uit om hiervan – via de samenwerking met onze mede-investeerdere en het management – een succesverhaal te maken."*

Voor meer informatie verwijzen we naar het persbericht van SynOx Therapeutics in bijlage.

OVER GIMV

Gimv is een Europese investeringsmaatschappij, genoteerd op Euronext Brussel. Met 40 jaar ervaring in private equity en venture capital, heeft Gimv vandaag 2,0 miljard EUR onder beheer. De portefeuille is geïnvesteerd in ongeveer 50 portefeuillebedrijven die samen een omzet van 2,5 miljard EUR realiseren en 14 000 professionals tewerkstellen.

Als erkend marktleider in geselecteerde investeringsplatformen identificeert Gimv ondernemende en innoverende bedrijven met een groot groeipotentieel en begeleidt ze in hun transformatie tot marktleiders. De vier investeringsplatformen zijn: Connected Consumer, Health & Care, Smart Industries en Sustainable Cities. Elk van deze platformen werkt met een ervaren team in de thuismarkten van Gimv (Benelux, Frankrijk en DACH) en kan rekenen op een uitgebreid internationaal netwerk van deskundigen.

www.gimv.com

Voor meer informatie, gelieve contact op te nemen met:

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SynOx Therapeutics raises €37M in Series A Financing

- Healthcap and Medicxi co-lead, joined by Forbion and Gimv
- Financing to develop emactuzumab to improve the lives of patients with tenosynovial giant cell tumours

Dublin, Ireland, November 19, 2020 – SynOx Therapeutics Ltd (“SynOx”), a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company developing best-in-class therapies for treating unmet orphan indications, announces today the closing of a €37 million Series A financing co-led by HealthCap and Medicxi and joined by investors Forbion and Gimv.

SynOx, a spin out of Celleron Therapeutics Ltd secured exclusive world-wide rights for the clinical development, manufacturing and commercialization of emactuzumab under a licence agreement with Roche. The financing will enable SynOx to continue the development of emactuzumab, for the treatment of diffuse tenosynovial giant cell tumours (TGCT) and other orphan disease indications.

Emactuzumab is a clinical-stage humanised IgG1 CSF-1R targeted antibody designed to target and deplete macrophages in the tumour tissue. It has shown a favourable safety profile in patients and encouraging efficacy for TGCT, a rare disease characterised by the proliferation of macrophages in the synovial tissue in the joint and tendon sheath.

Professor Nick La Thangue, Chief Executive Officer of SynOx, commented: “We are very excited to be developing emactuzumab as a breakthrough treatment for the extreme and debilitating effects of TGCT. Synox will be focused on generating all necessary data to register this new therapy in a time- and cost-efficient way.”

Jacob Gunterberg, Partner at HealthCap, said: “With the objective to develop a new therapy for TGCT patients who suffer from a significantly reduced quality of life, the involvement in the establishment and investment in SynOx fits very well with our investment strategy.”

Francesco De Rubertis, Partner at Medicxi, commented: “We are excited to support SynOx in its continued development of emactuzumab, an agent which has demonstrated profound efficacy in over 60 TGCT patients treated to date.”

The SynOx Therapeutics Board will consist of Jacob Gunterberg (HealthCap), Francesco De Rubertis (Medicxi), Dirk Kersten (Forbion), Michaël Vlemmix (Gimv), Declan Doogan (chairman of Celleron Therapeutics) and Nick La Thangue.

ENDS

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About SynOx Therapeutics

SynOx is a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company developing best-in-class therapies for treating unmet orphan indications. It is a spin out from Celleron Therapeutics, an oncology company focussed on the clinical development of new and innovative therapies to treat cancer. SynOx is developing emactuzumab, a best-in-class CSF1R targeted therapeutic antibody designed to target and deplete tumour-associated macrophages in the tumour tissue. SynOx is led by a team of experts that combines biotech and pharma experience with a successful track record of developing and bringing products to market. It is backed by a strong investor syndicate – Healthcap, Medicxi with Forbion and Gimv.

A paper on emactuzumab was published in the European Journal of Cancer, Volume 141, December 2020 edition, *Long-term clinical activity, safety and patient-reported quality of life for emactuzumab-treated patients with diffuse-type tenosynovial giant-cell tumour*
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959804920310467>

About Celleron Therapeutics

Celleron is an oncology company focussed on the clinical development of new and innovative therapies to treat cancer. Celleron is developing a novel group of clinical products, supported by predictive companion diagnostics, that act through defined molecular mechanisms to prevent cancer cell growth. The company's lead products are in clinical trials, supported by a biomarker platform that allows responsive patients to be identified. The company has deep relationships with Oxford University and is located on the Oxford Science Park, United Kingdom.

Investor Syndicate Details:

About HealthCap

HealthCap is one of the largest specialized providers of venture capital within life sciences in Europe. Since the start in 1996, HealthCap has backed and built more than 100 companies. HealthCap's investment strategy focuses on diseases with high unmet medical needs and breakthrough therapies which have the potential to be transformative and improve the lives of patients suffering from these conditions. Please see: www.healthcap.eu and on Twitter: @HealthCapVC

About Medicxi

Medicxi is a European venture capital firm with the mission to create and invest in companies along the full drug development continuum. Medicxi was established by the former Index Ventures life sciences team, which has been active for over 20 years, and invests in both early and late-stage assets with a product vision that can fulfil a clear unmet need. GSK, Johnson & Johnson Innovation – JJDC, Inc., Novartis and Verily (an Alphabet company) have invested in Medicxi funds. For more information, please visit us at www.medicxi.com and follow us on Twitter (@medicxi).

About Forbion

Forbion is a dedicated life sciences venture capital firm with offices in The Netherlands, Germany and Singapore. Forbion manages well over EUR 1.25 billion across multiple fund strategies that cover all stages of (bio)pharmaceutical drug development. Forbion's current team consists of 20 life sciences investment professionals that have built an impressive performance track record since the late nineties with successful investments in over 69 companies. Its investors include the EIF, through its European Recovery Programme (ERP), LfA, Dutch Venture Initiative (DVI), AMUF and EFSI facilities and KfW Capital through the Programme, "ERP – Venture Capital Fondsinvestments". For more information, please visit: www.forbion.com

About Gimv

Gimv is a European investment company, listed on Euronext Brussels, with 40 years' experience in private equity and venture capital. The company currently has a portfolio of EUR 1.2 billion of investments in around 50 portfolio companies, with combined turnover of EUR 2.5 billion and 14,000

employees. As a recognized market leader in selected investment platforms, Gimv identifies entrepreneurial, innovative companies with high growth potential and supports them in their transformation into market leaders. Gimv's four investment platforms are Connected Consumer, Health & Care, Smart Industries and Sustainable Cities. Further information on Gimv can be found on: www.gimv.com