

Nosopharm receives €1 million loan from Bpifrance

Funding for preclinical research with the view to applying for clinical trial authorisation for first drug candidate in new class of antibiotics

Lyon, France, February 12, 2018 - Nosopharm, a company dedicated to the research and development of new anti-infective drugs, today announces that it has received €1 million (\$1.2M) in funding from Bpifrance in the form of an interest-free loan. This loan will enable Nosopharm to undertake chemistry, manufacturing and controls (CMC) development and regulatory preclinical research for its main drug candidate, NOSO-502. The company plans to submit a clinical trial authorisation application in 2019 with a view to beginning the first clinical trials in humans in 2020.

NOSO-502, the first clinical candidate in the new class of antibiotics known as Odilhorhabdins, is the most advanced molecule in Nosopharm's portfolio. It inhibits bacterial translation with a new action mechanism. NOSO-502 is intended primarily for the treatment of nosocomial infections caused by *Enterobacteriaceae*, including polymyxin- and carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE). No novel class of antibiotics against those pathogens has been introduced into clinics since the 1980s.

NOSO-502 has proven to be effective *in vivo* in several *Enterobacteriaceae* infection models. The molecule has also shown good tolerance *in vivo*. It has demonstrated antibacterial activity *in vitro* against multi-drug resistant clinical isolates (KPC, NDM, OXA and MCR among others). NOSO-502 therefore has significant potential for the treatment of serious nosocomial infections.

"Carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE) are still not very familiar to the general public. They are often overshadowed by Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) which have dominated discussions for several years. However, the WHO has identified this class as a priority in terms of the need to discover new molecules," said Sandra Dubos, business innovation manager at Bpifrance. "Nosopharm's strategic development choices have therefore allowed it to take advantage of a window of opportunity that few players will be able to address with new molecules. We have supported Nosopharm since its creation and we are particularly proud to be on board with this project, with which Nosopharm can reach a key milestone in its development."

"The funds provided by Bpifrance represent welcome financial support that will smooth the way for us to move towards the next decisive steps for our company, including the submission of a clinical phase authorisation application for NOSO-502," said Philippe Villain-Guillot, chief executive officer of Nosopharm. "We would like to thank Bpifrance for its trust. We are delighted to be able to push this new first-in-class antibiotic towards the clinical stage and are focusing our efforts on the progression of this project."

Hospital pathogens with multiple antibiotic resistances are responsible for at least 380,000 infections and 25,000 directly related deaths in the [European Union every year](#). The annual treatment and social costs have been estimated at some €1.5 billion (\$1.59bn). From a global perspective, antimicrobial resistance could kill up to ten million people every year by [2050](#), which could cost up to €94 trillion (\$100tn). In February 2017, the [WHO published](#) a list of priority pathogens¹ for the development of new antibiotics. *Enterobacteriaceae* were at the top of that list, with critical priority. In 2016, among the *Enterobacteriaceae* in the European Union, 5% of *Escherichia coli* and 16% of *Klebsiella pneumoniae* strains had combined resistance to cephalosporins, aminoglycosides and fluoroquinolones. For *K. pneumoniae*, resistance to carbapenems, which are used as last resort antibiotics, was [6%](#).

About Bpifrance

Bpifrance, a subsidiary of the French state and the Caisse des Dépôts and the entrepreneurs' trusted partner, finances businesses from the seed phase to IPO, through loans, guarantees and equity investments. Bpifrance also provides operational services and strong support for innovation, export and external growth in partnership with Business France.

With its 48 regional offices, businesses benefit from a powerful, efficient and close representative, to answer all their needs in terms of financing, innovation and investment.

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About Nosopharm

Nosopharm is a biotechnology company specialized in the research and development of new antimicrobial molecules. Nosopharm discovered and developed NOSO-502, a first-in-class antibiotic for the treatment of multidrug-resistant hospital-acquired infections. It has developed a unique expertise in the discovery of natural bioactive products stemming from the *Xenorhabdus* and *Photorhabdus* microbial genera and in the medicinal chemistry of Odilorhabdins, the new class of antibiotics to which NOSO-502 belongs. Founded in 2009, Nosopharm is based in Lyon, France, and has a staff of eight. To date, the company has raised a total of €4.3M (\$5.2M) in private equity and received €3.8M (\$4.6M) in grants from Bpifrance, IMI, DGA, Region Languedoc-Roussillon and FEDER.

<http://www.nosopharm.com/en>

Media contacts and analysts

Andrew Lloyd & Associates

Agnes Stephens - Sandra Régnavaque

agnes@ala.com - sandra@ala.com

Tel : +44 1273 675 100

[@ALA_Group](#)
