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Gimv leidt een Serie A-financieringsronde van 72 miljoen EUR van Complement Therapeutics om de verdere ontwikkeling van therapieën voor oogziekten te financieren.

Complement Therapeutics kondigt de closing aan van een Serie A-financieringsronde van 72 miljoen EUR onder leiding van Gimv samen met de bestaande investeerder Forbion en verder vergezeld door BioGeneration Ventures (BGV), Panakes Partners, Cambridge Innovation Capital (CIC), Hadean Ventures en Seroba Life Sciences. Complement Therapeutics zal de opbrengst van deze ronde gebruiken om haar innovatieve therapieën voor de behandeling van complement-gerelateerde ziekten verder te ontwikkelen, met bijzondere aandacht voor oogheelkunde.

Complement Therapeutics, een spin-out van de Universiteit van Manchester opgericht in 2021, heeft tot doel de behandeling van complement-gemedieerde aandoeningen te transformeren door nieuwe therapieën te ontwikkelen zoals CTx001, een innovatieve AAV-gentherapie voor de behandeling van geografische atrofie, een progressieve en geavanceerde vorm van leeftijdsgebonden maculaire degeneratie (AMD) die gepaard gaat met aanzienlijk, onomkeerbaar verlies van gezichtsvermogen.

Bovendien zal de financieringsronde Complement Therapeutics in staat stellen om zijn pijplijn van middelen voor niet-oculaire indicaties te evalueren en het nieuwe Complement Precision Medicine (CPM)-platform verder te ontwikkelen.

Michaël Vlemmix, Principal Life Sciences bij Gimv en Board Director bij CTx licht toe: *“Eén van de pijlers van onze Life Sciences-strategie is investeren in bedrijven waar baanbrekende wetenschap kan leiden tot een mogelijke paradigmaverschuiving in de behandeling en het leven van patiënten. Complement Therapeutics is een belangrijk voorbeeld van een dergelijke investering waarbij we trots zijn dat we een sterk syndicaat hebben kunnen bouwen, ondersteund door sterke huidige investeerders.”*

Rishabh Chawla, Associate van Gimv's Life Sciences-team en Observer bij CTx voegt toe: *“Met het vermogen om de oorzaak van complement-gerelateerde ziekten aan te pakken, samen met een zeer ervaren en toegewijd managementteam, zijn we ervan overtuigd dat Complement Therapeutics een waar verschil zal maken voor patiënten die tot op heden nog beperkte behandelingsmogelijkheden hebben.”*

Lees voor meer informatie het volledige (Engelstalige) persbericht van Complement Therapeutics in bijlage.

OVER GIMV

Gimv is een Europese investeringsmaatschappij, genoteerd op Euronext Brussel. Met meer dan 40 jaar ervaring in private equity, heeft Gimv vandaag 2 miljard EUR onder beheer. De portefeuille is geïnvesteerd in ongeveer 60 portefeuillebedrijven die samen een omzet van 3,1 miljard EUR realiseren en meer dan 19 000 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 vijf investeringsplatformen zijn: Consumer, Healthcare, Life Sciences, 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.

Meer informatie over Gimv vindt u op www.gimv.com.

Voor meer informatie, gelieve contact op te nemen met:

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Complement Therapeutics Secures €72 Million in Series A Financing to Advance Novel Therapies Targeting Complement-Mediated Diseases

- *Round led by Gimv, a Belgian based private equity and venture capital firm*
- *Round comes just 1 year after raising €5 million seed funding in February 2022*
- *Company aims to transform the treatment of complement mediated conditions*

Munich, Germany – 17th April 2023 - Complement Therapeutics GmbH (CTx), a preclinical stage biotechnology company developing novel therapeutics for complement mediated diseases, today announced the completion of a €72 million Series A financing. The round was led by Gimv, a Belgian-based private equity and venture capital fund, co-led by Forbion as existing investor and further joined by BioGeneration Ventures (BGV), Panakès Partners, Cambridge Innovation Capital (CIC), Hadean Ventures and Seroba Life Sciences.

With this new round of financing, CTx will continue the development and complete a Phase Ib clinical proof of concept of its lead product CTx001. CTx001 is a highly innovative AAV gene therapy for the treatment of Geographic Atrophy (GA) secondary to dry age-related macular degeneration (dry-AMD). Additionally, proceeds from this financing will be deployed to grow its laboratory-based activities in Stevenage (UK), evaluate CTx's pipeline assets for non-ocular indications as well as further develop the novel Complement Precision Medicine (CPM) platform.

CTx was spun out of the University of Manchester with initial funding from BGV in 2021 and subsequently received €5 million seed funding in February 2022 from Forbion and BGV. With that funding, CTx has advanced CTx001 through preclinical proof-of-concept, secured an Innovation Passport by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) and initiated a non-interventional natural history study in the UK (i-GAIN). The i-GAIN study results will help support the clinical development planning for CTx001.

"With a potentially highly differentiated lead asset combined with a precision medicine approach, we are excited by the opportunity to further develop CTx001 for the treatment of GA through to the clinic." said **Dr Rafiq Hasan, CEO and Managing Director at Complement Therapeutics GmbH**. "The support of this broad syndicate enables us to generate additional data demonstrating CTx001's unique and differentiated mechanism of action, with the potential to transform the treatment landscape in geographic atrophy."

The recent FDA approval of the first intravitreal treatment for GA is a significant milestone for GA patients and the retina community, and further validates the critical role that the complement system plays in the development and progression of GA whilst highlighting the importance of targeting complement as a therapeutic strategy. CTx001 gene therapy with its novel mechanism of action has the potential to provide superior efficacy compared to competitive drugs and to lower the burden of treatment among patients through a "one and done" approach and thereby transforming the treatment landscape in GA.

Michaël Vlemmix, Principal in the Life Sciences platform of Gimv said: “We are proud to have been able to build this syndicate and look forward to supporting Complement Therapeutics in its next phase of development. The company and its team combine deep research insights, strong industry background, and a robust understanding of complement-mediated conditions, in particular GA secondary to AMD. These strengths, coupled with a focus on addressing the significant unmet need in GA, positions the company to change the way the disease is addressed and potentially achieve meaningful therapeutic impact.”

“We are delighted with the rapid progress made by Complement Therapeutics in the last 12 months. Patients impacted by complement-mediated diseases often have to cope with debilitating symptoms throughout their lifetime and this can lead to a significant burden on them and their families. We look forward to supporting the Company as it drives forward a pipeline of novel assets addressing these unmet needs in complement-mediated diseases” said **Dr Dmitrij Hristodorov, Partner, Forbion.**

Alongside the financing, Michaël Vlemmix (Gimv), Rob Woodman (Panakès), Anne Horgan (CIC) and Roger Franklin (Hadean Ventures) will join the board as new members.

About Complement Therapeutics GmbH:

Complement Therapeutics GmbH (CTx) is a German headquartered early-stage biotechnology company focused on the research and development of novel therapeutics for complement-mediated diseases. The Company is a spinout from the University of Manchester and is based on the pioneering research of its founders into novel targets within the complement cascade.

Our lead investigational product (CTx001) is being evaluated as a potential gene therapy for GA, a leading cause of blindness. Additional programs will evaluate potential therapeutic opportunities in other complement-mediated conditions.

The Company is also developing a unique quantification methodology, the Complement Precision Medicine (CPM) platform, to enable the quantification of over 30 complement cascade proteins enabling more precise diagnosis and monitoring of disease.

The Company has subsidiaries in the UK (Complement Therapeutics Ltd) and in the USA (Complement Therapeutics Inc) as well as research laboratories in Stevenage, UK.

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For more information please visit: <https://complementtx.com/>

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