



i m m a t i c s

/ *immatics* granted orphan drug status for therapeutic cancer vaccine IMA901 /

Tuebingen, Germany, March 14, 2007. With the consent of the EU Commission, Tuebingen-based biotech company *immatics* has been granted orphan drug status from the European Medicines Agency (EMA) for its product candidate IMA901 for the treatment of renal cell cancer. This gives *immatics* the exclusive rights to market
5 and sell IMA901 in Europe for ten years following its market approval. In addition, classification as an orphan drug also makes it eligible for a centralized approval procedure, thus affording faster approvals in all EU member countries.

“The orphan medicinal product designation for IMA901 will give us another momentum to successfully develop our most promising renal cell cancer vaccine,” notes
10 *immatics* Chief Medical Officer Dr. Juergen Frisch. According to his assessment, the company had already been able to give its vaccine candidate greater exposure by filing the application with this European authority, and gained additional expertise in questions relating to drug approvals. This gives *immatics* important advantages in evolving IMA901 into a therapeutic drug and its successful market launch.

15 Dr. Ulrich Granzer, one of the world’s most renowned experts in the field of drug development and approval and a longstanding close consultant to *immatics*, accompanied the company in applying for orphan drug status. “I know of only few German biotech companies that are making such fast and focused progress in developing their product candidates as *immatics*. Consequently, orphan drug status for IMA901
20 represents a further step in implementing the strategy of this Tuebingen-based company.”

IMA901 is a combination of ten different peptide antigens that can all be found in the majority of renal cell cancer patients. This means that there is a very high probability that these antigens activate the human immune system to combat the tumor, thus
25 mobilizing the body’s own self-defense mechanisms. In late September 2006, barely three years after the launch of early preclinical development, *immatics* successfully concluded an international Phase 1 study on IMA901, and is now in the process of readying Phase 2 (proof of concept).

About *immatics*

30 *immatics* (www.immatics.com) is an independent biopharmaceutical company that focuses on
the development of new immunotherapeutic substances for cancer therapy. The product
candidates from *immatics* are based upon tumor-associated peptides (TUMAPs) that
specifically stimulate the immune system against cancer cells. In September 2006 – barely
35 three years after the launch of early preclinical development – the company successfully
concluded an international clinical study on its product candidate IMA901 for combating renal
cancer. Further product candidates in preclinical development, also consisting of peptide-
based immunotherapeutic substances for cancer therapy, are presently undergoing
preclinical development and will serve as the basis for a rapidly expanding product pipeline.
40 Formed in the year 2000 as a spin-off from the Institute of Immunology at the University of
Tuebingen, *immatics* today employs a staff of more than 40 people. Both Actelion co-founder
Thomas Widmann as well as Friedrich von Bohlen und Halbach, Christof Hettich (both from
Dievini), Erich Schlick (Wellington Partners), Klaus Stoeckemann (3i) and GPC Biotech CSO
Sebastian Meier-Ewert are among the members of the *immatics* Supervisory Board.
45 Since its founding, *immatics* has been able to raise €54 million from venture capital firms in
two rounds of funding. The first round, involving €14 million, was concluded in the spring of
2004. The second round, involving €40 million – the largest private round of financing for a
German biotech company since 2001 – was concluded in February 2007.

50 For further information

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