

PRESS RELEASE

MetrioPharm Selected by European Commission for Funding as Part of the "HERA Incubator"

- [European Commission nominates MetrioPharm with Covid project "iMPact" to the list of HERA funded projects](#)

Zurich, July 28, 2021. MetrioPharm AG, a pharmaceutical company developing drugs for chronic inflammatory diseases, has been nominated to receive funding under the HERA Incubator from the European Commission under Grant Agreement number 101046182. MetrioPharm's iMPact project is one of 11 consortia and research initiatives selected to work on vaccines, therapies and other medical measures targeting the Corona virus and its mutations.

The European Commission's funding program was launched in April 2021 to support urgently needed research and development across Europe to combat the corona virus and its variants. MetrioPharm AG, as consortium leader with the project "iMPact", is one of 6 initiatives nominated by the Commission to work on drug candidates for the treatment of SARS-CoV2. In the iMPact project, MetrioPharm has joined forces with three partner companies, Catalyze, MC Toxicology Consulting and ImmunoLogik, aiming to prepare a large-scale Covid research project which will include conducting a Phase II clinical proof-of-concept study of MetrioPharm's lead compound MP1032 against COVID-19. MP1032 has demonstrated both, strong immunomodulatory and specific antiviral properties against SARS-CoV-2 in preclinical studies.

MetrioPharm CEO Dr. Wolfgang Brysch commented, "We are very pleased with the announcement by the European Commission and the vote of confidence in our compound MP1032. The MetrioPharm team considers the decision as support for the pharmaceutical development steps already taken, and going forward for MP1032 in countering COVID-19. In view of a potential fourth wave in the fall, despite increasing vaccination rates, we should always keep in mind that better therapeutic options must be an essential part of the pandemic response. We develop our immunomodulator MP1032 to alleviate COVID-19 symptoms and shorten hospitalizations."

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About the European Commission funding

Under the EU HORIZON plan, the HERA project is part of a broad range of European Commission research and innovation activities to combat the corona virus. The 11 projects nominated for the HERA Incubator on July 22, 2021, involve 312 research teams from 40 countries, including 38 participants from 23 countries outside the EU.

<https://ec.europa.eu>

About MetrioPharm

MetrioPharm AG is a pharmaceutical development company focusing on drugs for chronic inflammatory diseases such as psoriasis, arthritis, and multiple sclerosis. Such chronic diseases pose a great individual health risk. The goal of MetrioPharm AG is to make the therapy of chronic inflammatory diseases more effective and more tolerable. We hope to achieve a healthspan expansion for patients: We want to stop the progression of chronic inflammatory diseases as early as possible and significantly prolong the healthy lifespan of millions of people.

MetrioPharm was founded in 2007 with headquarters in Zurich. The company has its R&D activities in Berlin.

About MP1032

MP1032 is a member of a new class of small molecule ROS scavengers that is targeted at activated macrophages and inflamed tissues. The molecule acts as a self-regulating modulator of cellular oxidative stress: due to its molecular structure, MP1032 is active when it is exposed to elevated levels of reactive oxygen species (ROS). The molecule changes from its inert state (inactive) to a deprotonated form (activated), in this process ROS are neutralized. Due to its self-regulated mode of activation, the effect of MP1032 is limited solely to the site of inflammation.

MP1032 acts at the top of the inflammatory cascade and has demonstrated broad anti-inflammatory and anti-infective activity in animal models, as well as an excellent safety profile in preclinical and clinical studies.

Since 2021, MetrioPharm is testing MP1032 in an international Phase II clinical trial in the indication COVID-19.

About HERA Incubator

The EU Commission has set up a European preparedness plan for biological hazards associated with COVID-19 variants, the so-called "HERA Incubator". HERA stands for

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"European Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority." In the HERA Incubator, researchers, biotech companies, manufacturers and authorities from the EU and around the world work together to detect new virus variants, create incentives for the development of new and adapted drugs and vaccines, accelerate approval procedures and expand production capacities.

Forward-looking statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties and are consistent with MetrioPharm AGs assessment as of the date of this release. Such forward-looking statements are neither promises nor guarantees, but are subject to numerous risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond MetrioPharm AGs control, that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in these forward-looking statements. MetrioPharm does not assume any obligation to update forward-looking statements with respect to changed expectations or new events, conditions or circumstances on which these statements are based. A liability or guarantee and, if applicable, claims for topicality, correctness and completeness of these data and information are excluded and cannot be derived either explicitly or impliedly.

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