Stimunity Announces Presentation of STI-001 Preclinical Work at AACR 2022

Paris, April 2022 – Stimunity, the VLP-based cancer immunotherapy company focused on STING, is pleased to announce that preclinical data on its STING-activating therapy, STI-001, will be presented as late-breaking poster at the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) 2022 Annual Meeting taking place April 8-13, 2022, in New Orleans, Louisiana.

"This is a recognition of the last 2 years of intense work on the preclinical package of our drug candidate STI-001 in collaboration with Nicolas Manel's laboratory at Institut Curie / Inserm. This work demonstrates that Virus-Like Particles have the potential to unlock systemic delivery for STING agonists via preferential dendritic cell targeting which is unique in the field" said Sylvain Carlioz, CEO of Stimunity.

The stimulator of interferon genes (STING) pathway is a well-recognized immune-boosting pathway to prime anti-tumor T cell response and has long been an area of interest in cancer treatment, but early STING-activating therapies have historically been disappointing in clinical trials due to the limitations of targeting small molecules to the right cells. Recent studies demonstrated that the activation of STING is cell-dependent, leading to different effects in different cells. Effects that we want to avoid: non-specific inflammation in tumor cells, tissue necrosis in endothelial cells, inhibition of proliferation in T lymphocytes, versus effects that we want to stimulate: stimulation of antigen presentation and activation of co-stimulatory molecules in dendritic cells [1,2,3] can be achieved by targeting STING activation to the right cells.

"We are grateful that the scientific committee found the research on our unique VLP-based STING therapy, STI-001, to be highly significant and timely to be included in the late-breaking session for AACR 2022 and look forward to sharing further updates in the coming months." said Dr. Ian Walters, chairman of the Board and chief executive officer of Portage.

Presentation Details

Abstract Title	Cellular selectivity of STING stimulation determines priming of anti-tumor T cell responses
Presenter	Bahkos Jneid, Institut Curie
Session Title	Late-Breaking Research: Experimental and Molecular Therapeutics 2
Session Date/Time	April 13, 2022, 9:00am – 12:30pm CT
Location	Poster Section 16

[1] K. E. Sivick et al., Cell Reports. Dec. 2018.
[2] Woo et al., Immunity 2014
[3] Jneid et al., BioRxiv 2022 www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.12.01.469893v1

About Stimunity

Stimunity is an early-stage biotech company focused on the development of STING agonist in immune-oncology based on a Virus-Like Particle, a unique biological approach. The technology, licensed from Institut Curie, Inserm, and University of Oxford. Stimunity's drug candidate STI-001 is best-in-class, systemically delivered, and enhances anti-tumor T-cell response due to its property to targets immune cells.

More information at https://stimunity.com or contact@stimunity.com.

Preclinical work (pear-review publication on going) can be found on BioRxiv at: https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.12.01.469893v1

About Portage Biotech

Portage is a clinical-stage immuno-oncology company advancing first-in-class therapies that target known checkpoint resistance pathways to improve long-term treatment response and quality of life in patients with evasive cancers. The Company's access to next-generation technologies coupled with a deep understanding of biological mechanisms enables the identification of the most promising clinical therapies and product development strategies that accelerate these medicines through the translational pipeline. Portage's portfolio consists of five diverse platforms, leveraging delivery by intratumorals, nanoparticles, liposomes, aptamers, and virus-like particles. Within these five platforms, Portage has 10 products currently in development with multiple clinical readouts expected over the next 12-24 months.

For more information, please visit http://www.portagebiotech.com, follow us on Twitter at @PortageBiotech or find us on LinkedIn at Portage Biotech Inc.
