

# THERAVECTYS RECEIVES FUNDING OF 1.2 MILLION EUROS FROM OSEO



Renaud VAILLANT, Chief Executive Officer of THERAVECTYS, states, "We are grateful to OSEO for their renewed confidence. This support helps fund the clinical trial that we initiated in November 2012. This trial, whose initial results we expect at the beginning of 2014, is a worldwide first!"

Eric VERKANT, Deputy Regional Director of OSEO for Ile-de-France Paris, emphasizes, "OSEO is a public enterprise with no equivalent in Europe whose mission helps fulfill a leading national ambition: contributing to making France a great country of innovation and of entrepreneurs. We are proud to take part in the development of THERAVECTYS, a cutting-edge company using a unique vaccination approach, striving for advances in medicine and patient care. Biotechnology companies form part of the three priority fields of our action, along with Digital and CleanTech companies."

#### Collaboration between OSEO and THERAVECTYS

The collaboration between OSEO and THERAVECTYS began in 2005 when THERAVECTYS was declared winner of the French competition to promote the creation of cutting-edge technology enterprises (Concours national d'aide à la création d'entreprises de technologies innovantes), organized by the French Ministry of Research, and was placed under OSEO management. At that time, THERAVECTYS received a grant of 322,500 euros to start up its operations.

In 2008, THERAVECTYS benefited from a hiring assistance grant of 50,000 euros from OSEO to continue hiring its scientific and technical staff.

In 2010, THERAVECTYS applied for a Development of Innovation assistance program (ADI), for which the company was granted a repayable advance of 2 million euros. The program, whose objective was to prepare the start-up of its clinical trial for anti-HIV therapeutic vaccine (production of pilot and cli-

nical lots, regulatory pre-clinical studies, and interactions with regulatory agencies) was successfully concluded in 2012.

Benefiting from the success of the 2010 ADI program, THERAVECTYS filed a new application for assistance, which was recently granted by OSEO, and is the subject of this press release.

Romain GOHAUD, Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer of THERAVECTYS, praises the quality of the exchanges between the OSEO and THERAVECTYS teams, and states, "This 1.2-million-euro aid for the Development of Innovation program provides the company with valuable support to carry out the phase I/II clinical trials for its vaccine candidate in France and Belgium. This program covers in particular the management of interactions with the clinical investigation centers, the management of the clinical CROs, and the immunological and virological analyses conducted by centralized analysis laboratories."

#### The Phase I/II clinical trial sponsored by THERAVECTYS

The double-blind placebo controlled study includes 36 patients in 6 centers: 4 in France and 2 in Belgium. Through this first human trial, THERAVECTYS intends to evaluate not only the safety and tolerance of its therapeutic vaccine candidate, but also the quality and intensity of the induced immune response.

The anti-HIV therapeutic vaccine developed by THERAVECTYS should allow patients treated with anti-retroviral drugs to stop taking them on a sustainable and perhaps even permanent basis once vaccinated.

## **About THERAVECTYS**

THERAVECTYS, a biotechnology company, is developing a new generation of vaccines based on lentiviral vector technology.

Built on the result of fundamental research conducted at the Pasteur Institute, this breakthrough technology is expected to enable the prevention or effective treatment of many diseases in which the induction of effective cellular immune response is required: viral diseases (HIV), bacterial or parasitic diseases, cancers, etc.

Since its creation, THERAVECTYS has been

working on the development of a therapeutic vaccine against HIV, for which the Phase I/II clinical trial is underway.

Benefiting from an exclusive worldwide license with the Pasteur Institute and from financial support from public institutions (OSEO, ANR), THE-RAVECTYS is continuing its research and development efforts to combat other diseases. It plans to develop new vaccine candidates in the near future, either alone or in collaboration with other pharmaceutical laboratories.

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