

CYTAVIS Corporate Fact Sheet

Overview

CYTAVIS BioPharma is a biopharmaceutical company focusing on the development of cancer therapeutics based on natural compounds. The company was founded in 2005 in Hamburg, Germany, by a group of private investors and BioAgency.

CYTAVIS currently focuses on the development of CY-503 (Aviscumine), a therapeutic protein in Phase II studies for malignant melanoma. For further development beyond Phase II, the company expects to close a strategic partnership for the compound.

Development Strategy

CYTAVIS in-licenses product candidates, which are based on natural compounds and have demonstrated promising results in preclinical studies, and typically develops these compounds up to Phase II in order to out-license them to pharmaceutical partners. The company works on defined projects with a focused development team. For special tasks, CYTAVIS can access a network of specialists in pharmacology, toxicology, design and management of clinical studies, regulatory affairs, manufacturing and formulation of pharmaceutical products.

Pipeline

CYTAVIS' lead product CY-503, a recombinant, dimeric protein derived from mistletoe, is being developed as a treatment for cancer.

Depending on the dosing, CY-503 acts either cytotoxic or stimulates the immune system. If administered subcutaneously, its immune-stimulatory effect can already be observed at very low doses of the protein (nanogram range) and is being explored in the ongoing clinical studies. CY-503 triggers the release of various cytokines and activates a network of the body's own immune cells, which are then able to eliminate cancer cells.

If administered in higher doses, CY-503 acts cytotoxic (apoptotic) on cancer cells expressing certain sugar molecules on their surface. The dimeric structure of CY-503 allows for the modulation of targeting and cytotoxicity, thereby providing the basis for a preclinical program on immunotoxins at CYTAVIS.

CY-503 has already been tested on approximately 100 cancer patients and has demonstrated good tolerability. In some cases, remissions or stabilizations of the disease could be observed. The company plans to initiate a Phase II study covering approximately 200 patients with colon cancer in 2009. Since April 2008, the compound is being tested in a Phase II study on patients with advanced metastatic melanoma.

In addition, CYTAVIS has the option to develop Fredericamycin A derivatives, which have repeatedly shown anti-tumor activity in preclinical studies.

Commercialization Strategy

With its clear focus on oncology, CYTAVIS is well positioned in a market with significant growth rates and an increasing demand for new treatment options. According to industry estimates, the global oncology market is expected to grow from US-\$ 35 billion in 2006 to approximately US-\$ 80 billion by 2011.

Year of Foundation
2005

Location
Hamburg (HQ)/
Bergisch-Gladbach
(F&E), both Germany

Management
Prof Dr Hans Lentzen
(CEO)

Focus
Derivatives of natural
compounds

Indications
Cancer

Pipeline
CY-503 (Ph. II)
Fredericamycins
(preclin.)
Immunotoxins
(preclin.)

Patents
> 35 granted patents in
5 families

Investors
BioAgency
MMP GmbH

Further Informationen:

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