



Velabs Therapeutics to cooperate with Chiome Bioscience in the field of GPCR-specific functional antibody screening

Heidelberg, Germany, April 24, 2019 - Velabs Therapeutics, specializing in the fast generation of functional therapeutic antibodies, today announced that it has entered into an agreement with Chiome Bioscience, Inc., Tokyo, to jointly discover modulatory and functional antibodies for one of Chiome's GPCR target genes. The collaboration will capitalize on Velabs' microfluidics-based technology in the field of functional antibody screening. Under the terms of the agreement, Velabs will receive an upfront payment after a successful first feasibility study and milestone payments upon the achievement of specific development and regulatory events. In addition, Velabs will also be eligible to receive tiered royalties and milestones on the worldwide sales of products that arise from the collaboration.

Chiome Bioscience is a leading expert in the discovery and development of therapeutic antibodies for clinical applications with unmet medical need. The company has the exclusive license of the ADLib® antibody generation technology from RIKEN and has several preclinical and clinical development programs for its therapeutic antibodies.

Velabs Therapeutics, a recent startup company of the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), is a pioneer in microfluidic technology for screening of antibodies with modulatory function on complex signal proteins like GPCRs or ion channels. The high-throughput screening platform allows for testing millions of correctly paired fully natural IgGs from humans and mice for therapeutic effects, rather than just for binding. Results are obtained in only a fraction of the time required by other technologies. The company offers customized screening services for users worldwide. Besides carrying out service projects, Velabs is currently also establishing its own proprietary pipeline of therapeutic antibody candidates for further joint development with pharma partners.

"This agreement represents an important deal for Velabs.", says Christoph Antz, Managing Director of Velabs. "It combines for the first time Velabs capacities of screening and generation of functional antibodies on complex signal proteins like GPCRs with Chiome's target specific know how for a fast and straightforward preclinical validation path" adds Christoph Merten, scientific founder and CSO of Velabs.

"We opted for Velabs' microfluidic screening technology in order to optimize time and productivity of discovering therapeutic antibodies against GPCRs. We look forward to obtaining promising hits, which can ultimately give rise to preclinical candidates through this collaboration", says Yukoh Nakazaki, Head of Antibody Research Laboratories of Chiome Bioscience.

Contact:

Velabs Therapeutics GmbH
Dr. Christoph Antz



Managing Director
Meyerhofstrasse 1, 69117 Heidelberg, Germany
+49-6221-387-8194
antz@velabs-therapeutics.com
www.velabs-therapeutics.com

About Velabs Therapeutics

Velabs Therapeutics is a spin-out from Europe's most prestigious life science research and instrumentation institute, the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), standing at the forefront of microfluidics-based screening technology and applications world-wide.

The company's droplet-based microfluidic screening technology aims at the fast generation of antibodies against target molecules presented on cellular membrane surfaces or as soluble protein. VELABS has pioneered the use of droplet microfluidics for the fast screening of correctly paired human antibodies that do not just bind to a drug target, but rather modulate its function.

For more information, please visit www.velabs-therapeutics.com.

About Chiome Bioscience

Chiome Bioscience is a clinical stage biotechnology company. Chiome's focus is on discovery and development of antibody-based therapeutics in the disease areas with unmet medical needs. Currently it is advancing two programs in oncology. Chiome has proprietary antibody generating technology named ADLib® System and has several antibody discovery and preclinical programs. Chiome was founded in 2005, is listed in Tokyo stock exchange Mothers (code: 4583), and located in Tokyo, Japan.

For more information, please visit www.chiome.co.jp