



BARC and DIAG2TEC join forces and expertise to offer highly innovative services in hematological cancers and specifically for Multiple Myeloma

Partnership provides biotech and pharmaceutical companies tools to optimize development of compounds for multiple myeloma from discovery to preclinical and clinical.

Gent (Belgium) and Montpellier (France), October 21, 2016: Michel Abiteboul, CEO of BARC Global Central Laboratory (BARC), a leading central laboratory operating on 5 continents and Pierre Vidal, CEO of DIAG2TEC, a spin-off from the CNRS, the University and Hospital University of Montpellier, have signed a strategic cooperation agreement to market unique and innovative services around hematological cancers and specifically Multiple Myeloma.

Based on deep biological and clinical expertise in Multiple Myeloma, a heterogeneous and incurable cancer for most patients, the service enables pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies to accelerate the optimization of their future medicines, both for preclinical and clinical development, to improve the cost efficiency of future drug development and to accelerate "fast track approval" and time to market.

DIAG2TEC brings to the partnership expertise and know-how of the disease, including: 40 human Multiple Myeloma cell lines which cover the range of heterogeneity of the disease, innovative tools to assess drug efficacy and characterize mechanism of action, tools to predict resistance mechanisms and development of biomarkers and companion diagnostics that serve as predictive signatures for the sensitivity of patient cells to a given drug.

BARC provides its unique expertise in the development of clinical trials. Indeed, BARC has been working in this field for over 20 years, especially in hematology/oncology, for which BARC teams have collaborated on the development of several major therapeutic innovations.

"I am delighted to start this partnership with the DIAG2TEC team, which has demonstrated a real expertise in Multiple Myeloma with innovative and unique tools and services for fast and high-quality clinical studies." says Michel Abiteboul, CEO of BARC. "As time is critical, it is essential to speed up the transition from pre-clinical to clinical development. The scope of our combined expertise and the quality of our resources allow us to offer a range of services that will effectively benefit our clients."

"This partnership with BARC is a tremendous opportunity for us," adds Pierre Vidal, CEO of DIAG2TEC. "Their high-quality clinical development services perfectly complement our expertise and services. By working hand-in-hand with BARC, we are able to offer our customers the information needed to ensure high quality clinical trials while optimizing their translational approach."

About Diag2Tec:

Created in July 2015, DIAG2TEC is a technical service company based in Montpellier, France. The company, with expertise in hematological cancers and especially in Multiple myeloma, provides pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies developing new drugs in these cancers very early optimization services for new molecules, identification and understanding of resistance mechanisms observed and the development of new drug protocols, better suited to the heterogeneity of the disease. Thanks to its strong interactions with hospital laboratories, DIAG2TEC can implement unique cellular models of multiple myeloma covering the heterogeneity of the disease, patented predictive signatures of the response of tumor cells of hematologic malignancies, allowing to know the sensitivity of a given patient to different classes of molecules and thus develop a more efficient and personalized medicine.

BARC Global Central Laboratory:

BARC Global Central Laboratory is part of Cerba HealthCare, a global lab group with more than 4200 staff. BARC Central Lab is dedicated to clinical trials and serves large pharmas to biotechs in the different regions of the world. Focusing on innovation and customer service, BARC is supporting global development of drugs through its network of laboratories in US, Europe, Africa, China, Singapore, Australia and Japan. BARC has been very active in the field of oncology and hemato-oncology, working on the front runner drugs globally.

The Company offers a comprehensive range of laboratory services from routine to highly innovative tools including NGS, flow cytometry, and versatile biomarkers in different fields.

For more information about BARC, please visit:

Internet: http://www.barclab.com
Twitter: @BARC_CentralLab