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PHYZAT ANNOUNCES R&D AGREEMENT WITH I3S

Porto, Portugal – Phyzat announced today that it signed with i3S an R&D agreement comprising development of a new dendrimer delivery system for its oncology 8603 and 4501 programs. The R&D activities will be carried out at i3S and Phyzat, in the scope of the SIRNAC project.

Paulo Osswald, CFO at Phyzat, commented: "i3S, through INEB, one of the consortium institutes, has proprietary expertise in the design of dendrimers for drug delivery and can provide us with an alternative delivery system designed to match the particular needs of our therapeutic strategies. This agreement comprises the development of several design options up to *in vivo* validation. We very much look forward to this collaboration and expect it to evolve into a long-lasting collaboration within the SIRNAC project and in other programs."

Ana Paula Pêgo, Principal Investigator at i3S, stated: "i3S has strong competences in biomaterial design for drug delivery that we brought from INEB, one of the founder institutes of i3S, which has a long history of research in biomaterials". Specifically, the nanoBiomaterials for Targeted Therapies research group has been focusing for long in the design of nanocarriers with fine-tuned properties for nucleic acid delivery. Ana Paula Pêgo explains that her group's research is focused on neuroregeneration and that they have developed a "very effective way to deliver nucleic acids using dendrimers that has a great potential to tackle similar aims in completely different diseases". Within this agreement, Ana Paula Pêgo states: " we will further develop our dendrimer-based technology for therapeutic solutions in cancer. This agreement with Phyzat typifies the line of translational collaborative research to whose development we are strongly committed."

The SIRNAC project is co-financed by

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Phyzat is a biopharmaceutical company, incorporated in Porto to develop innovative RNA-based therapeutics with a discovery and clinical development program based on siRNA technologies. The SIRNAC project is a discovery and pre-clinical development project of proprietary RNAi based therapeutic solutions.
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i3S – Institute for Research and Innovation in Health of the University of Porto is a transdisciplinary research institution devoted to research and innovation in the Health Sciences. The institute – a consortium headed by the University of Porto that results from a long-term collaboration between IBMC, INEB and IPATIMUP – gathers internationally renowned scientists offering a wide range of competences in basic, translational and clinical research. Therefore, our researchers are able to tackle complex health questions within three integrative programs: Cancer, Host Interaction and Response, and Neurobiology and Neurologic Disease. Guided by a strong social and ethical commitment, i3S has around 1000 collaborators and over 450 researchers with a PhD working in 64 research groups toward the development of multiple approaches with a single objective: promoting health.
www.i3s.up.pt