

Tillotts Pharma AG signs license agreement on antibody technology with Inven2

RHEINFELDEN, Switzerland, January 22, 2018

Inven2 AS (Inven2), a technology transfer and innovation company based in Oslo, Norway, and Tillotts Pharma AG (Tillotts), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Zeria Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Zeria) today announced that they have signed a license agreement granting Tillotts certain rights to a proprietary antibody backbone technology developed by Stian Foss, Inger Sandlie and Jan Terje Andersen at the University of Oslo and Oslo University Hospital (the Institutions). The partnership is governed by a license agreement, and includes specific analyses conducted by the Institutions to aid in the lead candidate selection.

The technology originates from one of the most active scientific groups at University of Oslo and Oslo University Hospital with regards to developing valuable inventions. For Tillotts, the license agreement is an important step in furthering the company's mission of offering gastrointestinal (GI) healthcare professionals innovative treatment solutions that can improve patients' well-being and quality of life. The partnership with Tillotts is a very important milestone for the technology in question, as it will create a very important series of proof-of-concept studies concerning the technology.

"We are very pleased with forming this partnership tailored to the disease areas of prime interest to Tillotts, and we are looking forward to work together with Tillotts and provide the support necessary for the progression of the technology", says Jørund Sollid, BD&L at Inven2.

Head of The Laboratory of Adaptive Immunity and Homeostasis at Oslo University Hospital and University of Oslo, Jan Terje Andersen, commented,

"We are very excited to have entered into this licensing agreement with Tillotts, a company with excellent capabilities in the field of gastroenterology. The agreement recognizes the true value of our technology platform, and we eagerly look forward to strengthen our collaboration. This milestone is a direct result of focused work by our research team over several years in close collaboration with Inven2. We are thankful for support from both the Research Council of Norway's BIOTEK2021 programme as well as innovation grants from the South-Eastern Norway Regional Health Authority that has supported the development of this technology."

Johannes Spleiss, Chief Scientific Officer at Tillotts commented, *"The time between the first meeting with the Oslo researchers and the implementation of this very important antibody technology into our preclinical compound TP10 was less than a year. This is proof of the dedication and professionalism at both Inven2 and Tillotts. The results obtained so far with this highly innovative approach are striking, and we are determined to use this technology as part of our lead compound TP10 going into the First-In-Human studies. We are convinced that this therapy will eventually play an important role in the treatment of Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)."*

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About Inven2

Inven2 is the technology transfer office for the University of Oslo, Oslo University Hospitals and all hospitals in the South-East region of Norway. Inven2's mission is to turn excellent science into products mainly in the field of life sciences. The various institutions together, disclose around 200 unique inventions annually.

In 2017, Inven2 delivered 80 new patent filings, 40 license agreements, and 6 start-up companies. As of today, Inven2 has a portfolio of 50 technology start-ups and about 300 active license agreements. Inven2's other business area is clinical contract partnerships with pharmaceutical companies running clinical trials at the Oslo University Hospital, the South-Eastern Health Municipal and the University Hospital of Northern Norway

For more information, please visit www.inven2.com

About Tillotts

Tillotts Pharma AG, part of the Japanese Zeria Group, is a fast-growing specialty pharma company with approximately 300 employees in Switzerland and abroad. Tillotts is dedicated to the development, in/out-licensing and commercialisation of innovative pharmaceutical products for the digestive system. Tillotts successfully markets its own products for the treatment of IBD as well as in-licensed products, in over 65 countries through its affiliates within Europe and a network of gastroenterology-focused partners throughout the world. GI-health is our passion™. All trademarks used or mentioned here are protected by law. ©Copyright Tillotts Pharma AG. All rights reserved.

For more information, please visit www.tillotts.com

About Zeria

Zeria Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., founded in 1955, based in Tokyo, Japan, focuses on R&D, manufacturing and sales of prescription drugs as well as OTC products. The company is listed on the First Section of Tokyo Stock Exchange (Stock code: 4559). Zeria holds a leading position within the gastroenterology field in Japan and operates internationally through a number of subsidiaries. For more information about Zeria, please visit www.zeria.co.jp

About The Laboratory of Adaptive Immunity and Homeostasis

The research group is studying the cellular processes and molecular interplay underlying the functions of the two most abundant proteins in blood, albumin and IgG. By combining structural and biophysical approaches with cellular and in vivo studies, the laboratory is using this in-depth knowledge to design novel albumin and antibody molecules with improved functions. The laboratory has an eye on translational research, is highly innovative and is the research group at the University of Oslo and Oslo University Hospital with most registered innovations at Inven2. The laboratory is collaborating extensively with biotech and pharmaceutical companies. Jan Terje Andersen, the head of the laboratory, has obtained the Fridtjof Nansen Prize for Early Career Achievements, Oslo University Hospital Early Career Award and is a member of The Young Academy of Norway.

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