



PRESS RELEASE • PRESS RELEASE • PRESS RELEASE

## NEOVACS TO PRESENT ADDITIONAL DATA ON IFN $\alpha$ -KINOID IN SLE TREATMENT AT THE ANNUAL EUROPEAN CONGRESS OF RHEUMATOLOGY

### New clinical data further validates to Neovacs' therapeutic approach in lupus

Paris, May 15, 2014 – NEOVACS (Alternext Paris : ALNEV), a leader in active immunotherapies for the treatment of autoimmune diseases, today announced it will present two posters with additional data from the phase I/II clinical trial of IFN $\alpha$ -Kinoid in the treatment of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE)<sup>1</sup>, or lupus, during the European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR)'s Annual European Congress of Rheumatology, June 11-14 in Paris.

Data presented in Neovacs' first poster, "*Potent, broad, and specific neutralizing capacities of polyclonal anti-interferon alpha antibodies induced by IFN-Kinoid in SLE patients*"<sup>2</sup>, demonstrates that polyclonal antibodies induced by immunization with IFN $\alpha$ -Kinoid neutralized most IFN $\alpha$  subtypes, produced in excess. These results further support the superiority of a polyclonal antibody strategy over monoclonal antibodies in the treatment of SLE. Neovacs' IFN $\alpha$ -Kinoid is the only treatment able to induce polyclonal antibodies that effectively neutralize all subtypes of interferon-alpha present in lupus.

The Company's poster, "*Serum IFN-alpha, but not IFN-beta or IFN omega, correlates with IFN signature in SLE patients*"<sup>3</sup>, further emphasizes the role of IFN $\alpha$  in the development of SLE. A high IFN signature is driven by IFN $\alpha$  and is linked to a more active form of the disease.

*"Clinical trial results from Neovacs and other major players recently confirmed the relevance of IFN $\alpha$  as a target for the treatment of lupus<sup>4</sup>. The active immunization pathway, which Neovacs is the only company to pursue, has significant advantages over passive immunization with monoclonal antibodies, especially in chronic conditions. Specifically, active immunization has no risk of rejection or resistance, demonstrates a simplified administration regimen and is less expensive to produce. This positive data supports our current preparations for a phase IIb clinical trial of IFN $\alpha$ -Kinoid in SLE, which we expect to be launch in 2015,"* said Neovacs CEO Miguel Sieler.

#### About Neovacs

---

<sup>1</sup> Bernard Lauwerys et al., Down-Regulation of Interferon Signature in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus Patients by Active Immunization With Interferon –Kinoid, *Arthritis & Rheumatism* Vol. 65, No. 2, February 2013

<sup>2</sup> EULAR14-SCIE-3726. Abstract available at <https://b-com.mci-group.com/AbstractList/EULAR2014.aspx>

<sup>3</sup> EULAR14-SCIE-3713. Abstract available at <https://b-com.mci-group.com/AbstractList/EULAR2014.aspx>

<sup>4</sup> <http://clinicaltrials.gov/show/NCT01283139>

Neovacs is a biotechnology company focused on an active immunotherapy technology platform (Kinoids) with applications in autoimmune and/or inflammatory diseases. On the basis of the company's proprietary technology for inducing a polyclonal immune response (covered by six patent families that run until at least 2023) Neovacs is focusing its development efforts on two active immunotherapies: TNF-Kinoid is being developed for the treatment of TNF-mediated autoimmune diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis and Crohn's disease, whereas IFN $\alpha$ -Kinoid is being developed for the indication of lupus. Neovacs is also conducting preclinical works on IFN $\alpha$ -Kinoid in certain chronic viral infections, VEGF-Kinoid in Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD) and solid tumors, and IL-4-Kinoid for the treatment of allergies. The goal of the Kinoid approach is to enable patients to have access to safe treatments with efficacy that is sustained in these life-long diseases.

**For more information on Neovacs, visit [www.neovacs.fr](http://www.neovacs.fr)**

**Contacts**

**NEOVACS**

Nathalie Trépo  
+33 (0)1 53 10 93 00  
[ntrepo@neovacs.com](mailto:ntrepo@neovacs.com)

**Press & Financial Communication – Publicis**

Stéphanie Tabouis  
+33 (0)1 44 82 46 35  
[stephanie.tabouis@consultants.publicis.fr](mailto:stephanie.tabouis@consultants.publicis.fr)