Immunethep bolsters Scientific Advisory Board with a renowned figure from the academic landscape in Immunology

António Coutinho, M.D., Ph.D., expert in Immunology with over 450 published papers in immunology and biology journals, appointed as Scientific Advisor

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Immunethep, a biotech company developing broad coverage immunotherapies effective against multidrug resistant bacteria based on the discovery a novel mechanism of immunosuppression which is shared by different pathogenic bacteria, announced today that Professor António Coutinho, has agreed to support the company’s efforts in entering clinical stage.

“We are very pleased to have one of the most influential experts in Immunology in our team of advisors” said Pedro Madureira, Chief Scientific Officer of Immunethep. “We are sure that with Professor Antonio Coutinho’s contribution, Immunethep will take a major step into clinical trials with our first product whilst is advancing with a robust pipeline”

“Having Professor Coutinho, a world reference in Immunology that brings his international recognized achievements in science coupled with his vast experience in scientific leading positions within renowned research institutes such as Pasteur Institute, CNRS and Gulbenkian Institute, strengthens our confidence in Immunethep’s science and current pipeline” said Pedro Madureira, Chief Scientific Officer of Immunethep

Antonio Coutinho, M.D., Ph.D.¹, Scientific Advisor. He received his MD from Lisbon Medical School (1970), and his PhD in Medical Microbiology from the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm (1974), where he became Associate Professor in Immunology (1974); he has been Professor and Head of the Department of Immunology at Umeå University Medical School (1979-84), elected Professor of General Pathology at the University of Geneva (1982), and appointed Professor of Immunology at Lund University (1987), having held positions at the Basel Institute for Immunology, in Switzerland (Member, 1975-1979) and at the Swedish Medical Research Council (Special Investigator, 1978). From 1982 to 1998, António Coutinho was at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, where he was Professor, Research Director at the CNRS (1980-2008) and Head of the Immunobiology Unit (1982-98), and of the Immunology Department (1991-4). He has become Director of Advanced Studies at the Gulbenkian Institute in 1991, where he launched and conducted, from 1993 to 2000, the Gulbenkian PhD Programme in Biology and Medicine. In 1998, he was appointed the Institute’s Director, where he was responsible for the “Laboratoire Européen Associé” to the CNRS (France) (1999-2005) and for the Portuguese Research Council (FCT) Unit on “Genetics and Development of Natural Tolerance” (2000-2008). In 2002, he was appointed “Professor Catedrático Convidado” of Immunology, at the Lisbon University Medical School. Antonio Coutinho has directed 26 students to PhDs in various European Universities, has published over 450 papers in immunology and biology journals, and was ranked by the ISI in 2001 among the 100 most cited immunologists in the previous 20 years. He has often lectured

¹ http://euroacadti.eu/index.php/honorary-members-academicians
in Europe, USA, Japan and Latin America, having been Visiting Professor at various Universities in Europe (Karolinska Institute, Stockholm University, Umea University, Autonomous University of Madrid, University of Pierre and Marie Curie in Paris) and in America (MIT, Universities of S. Paulo, Federal do Rio de Janeiro, and Minas Gerais). He has been Editor [Annales de l’Institut Pasteur, Scandinavian Journal of Immunology, Proceedings of the Royal Society B (London), International Immunology], or member of Editorial Boards [Autoimmunity Reviews, Cellular Immunology, Current Opinion in Immunology, European Journal of Immunology, Immunobiology, Immunological Reviews, Journal of Autoimmunity, Journal of Molecular and Cellular Immunology, Journal of Theoretical Biology] of scientific journals, he serves or has served in Scientific Committees or Advisory Boards of various Institutes or organizations in Europe, America and Asia [Max-Planck Institute for Immunobiology (D), Institut d’Embryologie du Collège de France (F), International Union of Immunological Societies, Human Frontiers Science Program, Etablissement Français des Greffes (F), Jean Brachet Foundation (B), Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian (P), IBET (P), Instituto Nacional de Administração (P), Prix Jacques Theodor (B), Immunitet (CA), FIP (USA), Pasteur-Mérieux (F), Shyonogi Biomedical Research (USA), Linden Biotechnologies (USA), Instituto Nacional de Ciencias Medicas y Nutricion (MEX), Riken Center of Immunology and Allergy (J), Institute of Medical Immunology (B), COTEC (P), Alto Conselho IDE (P), Fundação Champalimaud (P), Fondation Schlumberger (CH), Singapore Immunology Network (Si), Fundação Altran (F), Associação Portuguesa Contra a Leucemia (P), Center of Infection and Immunity of Lille (F)]. He is a member of EMBO (member of the EMBO Council 2000-4, Vice-Chair in 2004), of IMBO and of ENII (of which he was founder and first President), of the Portuguese Academy of Medicine, Foreign Member of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences, President of the Lisbon Society of Medical Sciences, and Honorary Member of the Portuguese Society for Immunology. Antonio Coutinho has contributed to several topics in immunology (lymphocyte activation and population dynamics, genetics of development and organization of the immune system, tolerance and autoimmune diseases) and in general problems in biology (auto-organization and networks). His scientific and educational activity has been distinguished with prizes (Fernstromska Priset, Sweden, 1981; FEBS Anniversary Prize, 1982; Premio Gulbenkian de Ciência e Tecnologia, Portugal, 1987; Prix Behring-Metchnikoff, France, 1990; Prix Lacassagne du College de France, 1995; Prémio da Universidade de Lisboa, 2007), and honors [Comendador da Ordem do Cruzeiro do Sul, Brasil, 1998; Chevalier de la Légion d’Honneur, France, 2001; Placa de Homenagem da Sociedade Brasileira de Imunologia, 2002; Grande Oficial da Ordem do Infante D. Henrique, Portugal, 2003].

**About Immunethep**

Immunethep is a biotech startup company (spin-off from the University of Porto), located in Portugal, that is developing anti-bacterial immunotherapies based on the discovery of a virulence mechanism shared by different bacteria that cause life-threatening infections.

PNV Candidate Vaccine, is a preventive strategy that confers protection against some of the main life-threatening bacterial infections. This is the first vaccine able to prevent multi-bacterial infections, including multi-resistant strains, from all its serotypes from the womb until elderhood.