Lisbon, 18 October 2018 - Immunethep raises additional financing to strengthen strategic industry partnerships and to prepare for clinical trials

Immunethep, a biotech company that develops anti-bacterial immunotherapies for life-threatening infections, has raised additional funding from its lead investor Portugal Ventures of 0.5+ M€ to further develop strategic industry partnerships and prepare for clinical trials.

“It is very important for a start-up like Immunethep to be backed up by investors that really support the breakthrough work that we are doing in the field of bacterial infection. This new investment shows that Portugal Ventures believes in our development plan and gives the team additional motivation to take our vaccine candidate through clinical trials.” said Bruno Santos, Chief Executive Officer of Immunethep.

“Portugal Ventures believes Immunethep’s immunotherapies are real breakthroughs under development with the potential to be game changers in the field of anti-infectives” said Rita Batista Marques, CEO of Portugal Ventures.

After raising a seed round from Portugal Ventures to execute pre-clinical trials and having generated solid pre-clinical data, the company is currently raising a series A round to enter clinical trials with its PNV vaccine candidate and to conclude the pre-clinical development of the therapeutics program PNmAb, a monoclonal antibody against a variety of life-threatening bacterial strains.

**About Immunethep**

Immunethep is a biotech startup company (spin-off from the University of Porto), located in Portugal, developing anti-bacterial immunotherapies with a novel mechanism of action based on the discovery of a virulence mechanism shared by various bacteria that cause life-threatening infections. It is developing the PNV Candidate Vaccine, 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. In addition, it is developing a therapeutic against infection using the same mechanism of action.

**About Portugal Ventures**

Portugal Ventures is a venture capital firm that invests in the seed rounds of Portuguese Tech, Life Sciences and Tourism start-ups. Our mission is to proactively invest in startups in all stages of development, helping them grow, increase their competitiveness and go global. Considered by CB Insights as the most active venture capital firm in Portugal, since 2012 we have invested over 120 million euros in more than 100 start-ups, and have managed the first Portuguese fund specialized in investments in Life Sciences. With a portfolio of 20 backed companies in this sector, Portugal Ventures has invested over than 29,2 million euros in Life Sciences start-ups.

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