

IMMUNETHEP ANNOUNCES RESEARCH COLLABORATION WITH MSD

- Immunethep and MSD entered into a research collaboration for the development of potential innovative immunotherapies for bacterial infections
- Immunethep stays committed to the field of bacterial infections

Cantanhede, February 16, 2021 - Immunethep, a biotechnology company based in Cantanhede, Portugal, announced it has entered into a research collaboration with MSD, a tradename of Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, NJ USA.

The goal of the research is to evaluate bacterial glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenase (GAPDH) as a suitable virulence factor in developing potential immunotherapies for the treatment and/or prevention of bacterial infections.

“We believe that the development of these potential immunotherapies, targeting the virulence mechanism we discovered, in collaboration with MSD, represents a significant milestone to Immunethep and reflects the promise of our work in the field of bacterial infections”, said Immunethep’s CEO, Bruno Santos.

Immunethep has developed a new strategy to target antimicrobial resistance (AMR) – the Paragon Novel Vaccine (PNV). PNV is a peptide-based candidate vaccine that is designed to elicit bacterial GAPDH-specific blocking antibodies to protect the host from infection. Immunethep is also investigating the potential for antibacterial GAPDH antibodies (UnimAb) to treat bacteria in cases of acute infection, in which an immediate response is required.

Immunethep's proprietary technology, the GAPDH virulence platform, is the basis for the potential creation of immunotherapies to prevent and treat bacterial infections from some of the most pathogenic bacteria. MSD will provide research funding to evaluate the GAPDH virulence mechanism in humans leading the way to further develop therapies for bacterial infections.

About Immunethep

With a presence in Portugal for 5 years and a total of 10 employees, Immunethep is a biotechnology company focused on the development of antibacterial immunotherapies based on the discovery of the GAPDH virulence mechanism, a platform shared by a set of different pathogenic bacteria that potentially cause fatal infections.

The know-how acquired by Immunethep with the immunotherapies development allowed it to also start developing a vaccine for COVID-19.

For more information about Immunethep visit: www.immunethep.com

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