New approaches for the targeted therapy of Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

Fact Sheet

Project Information

LUNGTARGET
Grant agreement ID: 259770

Funded under
FP7-HEALTH

Project website

Closed project

Overall budget
€ 4 067 435,47

EU contribution
€ 2 997 332

KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT
LEUVEN
Belgium

Start date
1 January 2011

End date
30 June 2015

Objective

Lung cancer is the most common cancer fatality in Europe (335000 deaths/yr). Non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) consists 85% of the cases, with 5 yr survival <15%. Hence, this proposal focuses on the urgent need for better NSCLC therapies. This is a European problem at societal and scientific level: better therapies are needed to keep the spiralling costs of European health systems under control, and the required expertise (basic science, clinical, biotech, experimental therapeutics) is scattered over the EU. Because of the diversity of the NSCLC problem (and the small/medium size of the project) we are focusing on two particular problems: 1) to find solutions for the currently clinically observed resistance problems with epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) targeting therapies (10% of NSCLC patients), and 2) to find a solution for the clinically unmet need for NSCLC patients with KRAS mutations (30% of NSCLC), for whom there virtually is no cure (besides very modest effects of
platinum based therapies). Based on this focus, we assembled an EU wide consortium which joins excellent expertise at both the basic science (EGFR family, KRAS), clinical (involvement of several clinical study leaders) and biotech level (involvement of academic and SME biotech component). We aim:
1) To identify novel drug targets for the improvement of EGFR targeting therapies and for the development of therapies for K-Ras mutant patients (via genome wide RNAi screening and kinome/secretome profiling).
2) To validate these targets in innovative mouse models that replicate the clinical problem, and in patient materials (tissue and serum)
3) To develop novel therapeutics based on the unique expertise of our partners: anti-receptor DARPins (designed ankyrin repeat proteins), monoclonals or soluble receptors targeting the BROADER EGFR family (to block compensatory signalling), and protein kinase inhibitors.

The results will have important basic scientific, clinical and economic impact.

**Fields of science**

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**Programme(s)**

**Topic(s)**

**Call for proposal**

FP7-HEALTH-2010-two-stage

**Funding Scheme**

CP-FP - Small or medium-scale focused research project

**Coordinator**

KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT LEUVEN

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Oude Markt 13
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Activity type
Higher or Secondary Education Establishments

EU contribution
€ 595 504
Participants (9)

IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY AND MEDICINE

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EU contribution
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Activity type
Higher or Secondary Education Establishments

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FUNDACION CENTRO NACIONAL DE INVESTIGACIONES ONCOLOGICAS CARLOS III

Spain
EU contribution
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Activity type
Research Organisations

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MARTIN-LUTHER-UNIVERSITAET HALLE-WITTENBERG

Germany
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Activity type
Higher or Secondary Education Establishments
CANCER RESEARCH UK LBG

United Kingdom

EU contribution
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Activity type
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WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

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Activity type
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VICHEM CHEMIE KUTATO KFT

- **EU contribution**: € 201,875
- **Address**: Hermann Otto Utca 15, 1022 Budapest
- **Activity type**: Private for-profit entities (excluding Higher or Secondary Education Establishments)
- **Website**: 
- **Administrative Contact**: Zoltán Dobai (Mr.)

UNIVERSITAET BERN

- **EU contribution**: € 221,594
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UNIVERSITAET ULM

- **EU contribution**: € 85,487,05
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- **Activity type**: Higher or Secondary Education Establishments
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**Last update**: 1 August 2019