Objective

"This concerted action aims at providing new treatment options for cancer patients through boosting innovative drug development by European academia and industry. A wealth of preclinical data shows that the therapeutic impact of cytotoxic regimens is enhanced by simultaneous application of drugs that strengthen the immune system. The recent FDA-approval of Ipilimumab demonstrated that cancer immunotherapeutics constitute a clinically effective, marketable drug concept. Ipilimumab is an antagonist immunostimulatory antibody (IS-Ab) that removes the restraint on the immune response by blocking inhibitory receptors on immune cells. Potent immunity can also be elicited by means of agonist IS-Abs that engage activatory receptors. Our program will translate the agonist IS-Ab concept into clinical treatments. This is critical, because a repertoire of complementary drugs that act at different points in the immune regulatory network will be required to counter immune failure in different cancer (sub-)types.

Our initiative is supported by longstanding experience as well as by the availability of clinical lead Abs. Pivotal are two clinical trials in which cancer type and treatment regimen have been selected to approximate pre-clinical settings in which striking therapeutic impact with agonist IS-Abs has been obtained. These studies will involve extensive analysis of efficacy-related biomarkers by means of validated assays, not only in blood samples, but also in the most relevant compartment: the tumor microenvironment. While our state-of-the-art agonist IS-Abs are being tested in the clinic, a parallel SME-driven effort will aim at the development of 2nd generation agonist IS-Abs with superior therapeutic index. This innovation is supported by proprietary technology and will result in intellectual property and
marketable drugs. Taken together, our interdisciplinary platform is designed to yield maximal benefit for health care, academia and health-related industries in Europe.

Field of Science

/medical and health sciences/basic medicine/immunology

/medical and health sciences/clinical medicine/oncology/cancer

Programme(s)

FP7-HEALTH - Specific Programme "Cooperation": Health

Topic(s)

HEALTH.2013.2.4.1-2 - Strengthening the cancer patient’s immune system

Call for proposal

FP7-HEALTH-2013-INNOVATION-1

See other projects for this call

Funding Scheme

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

Coordinator

DEUTSCHES KREBSFORSCHUNGSZENTRUM HEIDELBERG

Address

Im Neuenheimer Feld 280
69120 Heidelberg

Germany

Website

Contact the organisation

Administrative Contact

Rienk Offringa (Prof.)

Participants (9)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>EU Contribution</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Activity type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNIVERSITATSKLINIKUM HEIDELBERG</td>
<td>€ 981 860</td>
<td>Im Neuenheimer Feld 672 69120 Heidelberg</td>
<td>Higher or Secondary Education Establishments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON</td>
<td>€ 1 295 820</td>
<td>Highfield So17 1bj Southampton</td>
<td>Higher or Secondary Education Establishments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FUNDACION PARA LA INVESTIGACION MEDICA APLICADA</td>
<td>€ 306 304</td>
<td>Avenida De Pio XII 55 31008 Pamplona</td>
<td>Research Organisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organisation</td>
<td>EU Contribution</td>
<td>Activity Type</td>
<td>Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIVERSIDAD DE NAVARRA</td>
<td>€ 299,600</td>
<td>Higher or Secondary Education Establishments</td>
<td>Campus Universitario Edificio Central 31080 Pamplona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FONDAZIONE IRCCS ISTITUTO NAZIONALE DEI TUMORI</td>
<td>€ 306,500</td>
<td>Research Organisations</td>
<td>Via Venezian 1 20133 Milan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLYCOTOPE GMBH</td>
<td>€ 448,426</td>
<td>Private for-profit entities (excluding Higher or Secondary Education Establishments)</td>
<td>Robert Rossle Strasse 10 13125 Berlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organisation</td>
<td>EU Contribution</td>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BIOINVENT INTERNATIONAL AB</strong></td>
<td>€ 448 399</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Soelvagatan 41 22370 Lund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEADARTIS S.L.</strong></td>
<td>€ 448 465</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Calle Ferraz 3 1 Izq 28005 Madrid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BIONTECH RNA PHARMACEUTICALS GMBH</strong></td>
<td>€ 1 096 400</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>An Der Goldgrube 12 55131 Mainz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>