Biomunex presents novel data confirming optimal drug-like properties and activity of BiXAb® antibodies

Presentation at the 11th *Next Generation Protein Therapeutics Summit* in San Francisco positively differentiated BiXAb platform from competing formats

BiXAb Plug-and-Play bispecific antibodies demonstrated excellent *in vitro* properties and *in vivo* activity

Paris, France, **July 11, 2016** – Biomunex Pharmaceuticals, a biopharmaceutical company focused on providing cancer therapeutics through the discovery and development of innovative bispecific antibodies, today announces that the company's CSO, Dr. Eugene Zhukovsky, introduced the Biomunex unique proprietary bispecific antibody platform (BiXAb) and provided an update on lead programs at the recent *Next Generation Protein Therapeutics Summit* in San Francisco (June 13-15). As the only start-up selected to present at the event, Biomunex unveiled a case study and novel data demonstrating that its optimized bispecific antibodies possess excellent drug-like properties, optimal functional activity and can be assembled without extensive antibody engineering; i.e. confer Plug-and-Play properties.

There are various different bispecific antibody platforms, however very few are capable of producing bispecific antibodies with good manufacturability and also lack of steric hindrance when binding its two targets – properties that are required for successfully producing new therapeutic candidates. Moreover, the vast majority of bispecific antibody formats do not permit the use of existing antibodies; instead they require the selection of binding domains from specially prepared antibody libraries, which does not allow the Plug-and-Play approach, a very attractive feature for pharmaceutical companies.

Dr. Zhukovsky presented data on ten different BiXAb antibodies, representing several therapeutic programs at Biomunex, confirming the optimal manufacturability of BiXAb. In accelerated degradation studies, the biophysical properties of BMX-002, a therapeutic candidate in Biomunex' lead program, remained unchanged for over one month, demonstrating excellent stability of BiXAb molecules. The *in vitro* results also indicate that the BiXAb platform possesses excellent 'Plug and Play' properties (i.e. modularity). Moreover, BMX-002 exhibited synergistic activity on its two targets and demonstrated superior *in vivo* efficacy and survival compared to that of the anti-EGFR + anti-HER2 mAbs combination. As BiXAbs are stable, do not degrade or aggregate for extended periods of time, and demonstrate modularity and excellent functional activity, the BiXAb platform is highly attractive for therapeutic development.

During the previous two years of research, Biomunex has been engaged in the optimization of the bispecific antibody format licensed from European academic collaborators into a robust and unique proprietary platform for the generation of therapeutic antibodies with superior activity and drug-like properties. Biomunex continues to expand its IP position on the BiXAb platform and its proprietary antibodies. At the beginning of 2016, Biomunex filed two patent applications for its two lead BiXAb antibodies.

"Proof of concept preclinical studies on BMX-002 have demonstrated the advantageous properties of our lead candidate, with optimal manufacturability, e.g. good expression level in CHO cells similar to that of parental antibodies, structural integrity and thermal stability, and lack of aggregation," said Dr. Zhukovsky. "We are delighted to have been selected to present at the next generation therapeutics event, where key players in the therapeutic development field were discussing the best antibody platforms."

"Our BiXAb platform is an excellent choice for the generation of therapeutic antibodies. It provides a substantial advantage over most of the competing formats. We have shown that products generated based on our proprietary platform will bear the manufacturing, stability and activity profiles that antibody developers, pharma and biotech companies, are looking for," said Dr. Gerard, CEO of Biomunex. "These promising results will help us nominate our first development candidate for the treatment of pancreatic and other solid tumor cancers in 2016. They will also facilitate the advancement of our second program, directed at the treatment of hematological malignancies and exploiting the clinically demonstrated power of immune checkpoint inhibitors."

The *Next Generation Protein Therapeutic Summit*, the industry's most comprehensive review of innovative therapeutic approaches, goes beyond the scope of antibodies. It provides coverage of the discovery, engineering and development of novel protein therapeutics and their latest successes in the clinic. The 2016 event showcased more than 40 presentations and case studies with new data, including Biomunex data related to its BiXAb platform. Major therapeutic innovators and top-level industry therapeutics developers from pharma and biotech companies attended the event.

About Biomunex

Biomunex Pharmaceuticals is a French biopharmaceutical company focused on providing cancer therapeutics through the discovery and development of innovative bispecific antibodies. Based on its unique proprietary platform, Biomunex is developing cutting-edge immunotherapies for several cancer types. Its 'Plug and Play' modular bispecific antibody BiXAb platform enables Biomunex to develop drug candidates with high anti-tumor potential, superior manufacturability and optimal drug-like properties.

BMX-002 is the most advanced candidate derived from Biomunex' platform. It has demonstrated superior in vivo efficacy in pancreatic cancer, one of the most lethal cancers. Initial preclinical studies have proven its potential to become a breakthrough therapy. BMX-002 is also being evaluated for the treatment of other cancers that may benefit from its mechanism of action.

The management team is made up of an experienced group of international managers and drug developers from the pharmaceutical and biotech industries, with extensive scientific expertise in oncology.

Biomunex was founded in 2014 and has already raised more than €1.5M ($1.7M) in seed funding from business angels and grants from the French Research Ministry and the public investment bank Bpifrance.

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