F-star announces funding and collaboration extension with new Christian Doppler Lab for Innovative Immunotherapeutics

Strong academic bridge supports F-star's leading, innovative position in immuno-oncology and bispecific antibodies

CAMBRIDGE, UK – 14 July 2016 – F-star, a biopharmaceutical company developing novel bispecific antibodies with a focus on immuno-oncology, today announced the extension of a multi-year collaboration and funding arrangement with the newly opened Christian Doppler (CD) Laboratory for Innovative Immunotherapeutics at BOKU, the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences in Vienna.

The collaboration allows F-star to explore additional applications of its powerful Modular Antibody Technology™ with options to intellectual property arising from work in the lab during this period. The collaboration is jointly funded by the BMWFW (Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy) and F-star Biotechnology Ltd.

John Haurum, Chief Executive Officer of F-star, commented: *"F-star is pleased to be collaborating with the Christian Doppler Laboratory for Innovative Immunotherapeutics and we look forward to a successful and highly productive working relationship with its scientists. This partnership also allows us to maintain our close links with the scientists at BOKU who discovered F-star's Modular Antibody Technology."*

The CD Laboratory and F-star seek to progress the understanding of the design, development and unique biology of antibody and antibody-based therapeutics by harnessing the ability of the human immune system to attack diseased cells, such as cancer cells that usually remain undetected.
A first approach will be to enable the immune system to recognise and differentiate between cancer and healthy cells then trigger the targeted death of the malignant cells. Another scope investigated will be to enhance the innate disease targeting ability of the immune system by blocking one of the tumour's defence mechanisms.

Dr. Gordana Wozniak-Knopp, Head of the CD Laboratory for Innovative Immunotherapeutics, said: *"The CD Laboratory for Innovative Immunotherapies is proud to be part of a public-private partnership to advance the bioengineering of antibodies and other biologics for immunotherapy which in future is expected to include product combinations and unique biology, requiring innovative solutions. As a partner F-star has an important role in shaping the commercial and entrepreneurial success of our projects in a fast-growing field of enormous potential benefit to patients worldwide."*

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About F-star

F-star is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company developing bispecific antibody immuno-oncology products selected for their potential to transform the treatment of cancer. Through the application of its highly efficient Modular Antibody Technology™ platform, F-star is the only biotechnology company able to create bispecific antibodies where the second binding site is in the constant Fc region of an antibody. The strength of the technology and programmes has been leveraged through partnerships with leading biopharmaceutical companies including AbbVie, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Merck Serono and Boehringer Ingelheim. F-star has currently one program in the clinic with a second immuno-oncology program heading toward IND. The Company has built a comprehensive IP estate around its technology and product pipeline, with over 50 patent applications filed and over 25 granted patents.

F-star's management team has a well-established track record in building successful biotech companies, and developing biologics. The team is advised by a world-leading scientific advisory board and a highly experienced board of directors. F-star has raised close to $100M in non-dilutive capital and revenues. The company currently employs over 60 people at its research site in Cambridge, UK.

For more information visit www.f-star.com

About Christian Doppler Forschungsgesellschaft (Christian Doppler Research Association)
The Christian Doppler Research Association (CDG) is considered a pioneer in Austria for successful cooperation between science and the private sector. The form of the cooperation funded by the CDG usually has the following appearance: a research group elaborates fundamental knowledge that flows into the development of new products and processes at commercial partners. This generates a brisk exchange of knowledge, experience and questions between the partners.

For 25 years, CD Laboratories have opened the door for cooperation partners to perform application-orientated basic research of mutual benefit to companies and science. With the JR Centres, the Christian Doppler Research Association has also been promoting cooperation between science and business at universities of applied sciences since 2012.

The Christian Doppler Research Association funds application-orientated basic research, gives companies effective access to new knowledge and operates at the interface between business and science.

For more information visit www.cdg.ac.at/en/