

EPICS Therapeutics – The RNA epigenetic Cancer Company

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- EPICS Therapeutics is a newly created company dedicated to develop **novel therapeutic solutions for cancer**, based on the highly innovative field of **RNA epigenetics**.
- EPICS Therapeutics is built around a **very strong and unique management team**, as it leverages **Prof. François Fuks** expertise in epigenetics combined with development expertise and entrepreneurial skills of **Jean Combalbert** (former CEO of Ogeda) as founders.
- EPICS Therapeutics secures an **ambitious seed funding of EUR 7.2Million** in equity from a syndicate of Belgium investors.

EPICS Therapeutics SA is a spin-off of the ULB (Université Libre de Bruxelles) announced as the result of a partnership between founders and a syndicate of Belgium investors. The investor syndicate is led by Newton Biocapital together with Walloon investment fund (SRIW) and ULB spin-off investment fund (Theodorus). EPICS Therapeutics will leverage epigenetics expertise of Pr. François Fuks' ULB laboratory in RNA modifications observed in cancer with the aim to become a leader in the field of RNA epigenetic medicines. EPICS Therapeutics has licensed technology from ULB and the seed investment totaling EUR 7.2M (excluding grants) will fund from the first stages of development of small molecules designed to treat cancer by targeting enzymes that modify RNA.

Jean Combalbert, PharmD, PhD, Founder and CEO of EPICS note: *"We are delighted about the prospect of creating a novel class of highly specific cancer drugs pipeline with a very new and innovative mechanism of action. EPICS benefits both from Prof. Fuks' research expertise and from a supportive syndicate of experienced investors and their respective networks. We believe that we are well positioned to build a leading company"*.

Prof. **Francois Fuks**, Founder of EPICS explains that: *"Besides the well-known modifications of DNA and histones, RNA are increasingly recognized as being chemically modified. These RNA modifications should easily rival DNA and histone modifications in terms of scientific breakthrough and exciting novel drug discoveries. Considering fast advances in the RNA epigenetic field, it is timely and opportune to translate ground-breaking studies, including ours, into the discovery of first-in-class drugs in oncology"*.

"We are very honored to be at the very beginning of that new and promising company with Prof. Fuks given its worldwide reputation and Jean Combalbert with whom we have made Ogeda so successful" quote **Alain Parthoens**, managing partner of Newton Biocapital. **Marie Bouillez**, partner at Theodorus also mention: *"Theodorus is delighted to support the ambition of EPICS to bring life changing medicines in the field of cancer"*.

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About EPICS Therapeutics

EPICS Therapeutics is a biotech company established at the ITech incubator 2 in the BioPark of Gosselies, Belgium. EPICS is based on a drug discovery and development platform to create a robust pipeline of programs across the novel RNA epigenetic targets and to develop innovative small molecules drugs for cancer treatment. Growing emphasis of recent drug discovery efforts targeting DNA and histone modifications has already proven successful, with some of the most promising new drugs to treat cancer in patients. Modifications to RNA are much more common than to DNA, further highlighting the huge potential of using RNA epigenetics for therapeutic applications. By targeting RNA modifications, we aim to translate science into life-changing therapies for patients.

About Newton Biocapital

Newton BioCapital is a life sciences venture capital firm incorporated in April 2017 under the Belgian corporate laws with the goal of contributing to the healthcare system by targeting chronic diseases. From our offices in Brussels and in Tokyo, the dedicated team of highly experienced investment professionals aims to back ambitious entrepreneurs with first class science as the starting point. www.newtonbiocapital.com

About SRIW

SRIW Société Régionale d'Investissement de Wallonie provides equity and/or debt to companies that generate added value and employment in Wallonia. SRIW facilitates the region's economic development, contributing effectively to the modernization, growth and restructuring of the businesses that make up the Walloon industrial network. In the life science sector, SRIW is investor in more than 30 companies such as IBA, Celyad, or Ogeda of which it recently exited. Its current portfolio fair value is above EUR 150 Million. www.sriw.be

About Theodorus

Theodorus is a spin-off fund from the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), focusing on seed and early stage financing. Theodorus III was created in 2013, with more than EUR 20 Million under management of which part can be invested in non-ULB spin-offs. Key success factors are a thorough selection and an intense hands-on coaching of the participations from inception to exit. www.theodorus.be