



PRESS RELEASE

Successful follow-up financing for Pantherna Therapeutics' development programs to fight *Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome*

Hennigsdorf, April 2, 2020

- The life science startup Pantherna Therapeutics secures capital in the amount of EUR 3.0 million in successful follow-up financing.
- Pantherna has a proprietary, innovative mRNA technology platform for the development of new types of therapeutics to treat acute respiratory distress syndrome, a lung disease that is caused among others by the Coronavirus.
- The funds raised will accelerate Pantherna's R&D activities and broaden them.
- Renowned European Business Angel Prof. Detlev Riesner together with the European Investment Funds and a private investor contribute to this round.

Acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) is a life-threatening respiratory failure of the lungs, induced by an excessive inflammatory reaction of the lung tissue as a result of infection with coronavirus (e.g. COVID-19). Severely affected survivors are often still unable to work for months to years. So far, no drug therapy for this life-threatening condition is available. Pantherna Therapeutics is developing a targeted therapy with a new mode of action that is intended to prevent fluid accumulation and tissue damage to the lungs.

"The new funds raised allow Pantherna to expand its drug development activities, test and accelerate additional candidates", says Klaus Giese, CEO at Pantherna Therapeutics.

Prof. Detlev Riesner, Qiagen-cofounder and private investor of several Biotech companies, points out: "As one of the investors of the new round I am very happy to support the acceleration of the development of the new drugs."

Dr. Anke Caßing, Senior Investment Manager at HTGF, adds: "We are very pleased about this further investment for Pantherna, with which the experienced team will significantly advance its development work."

About Pantherna

Pantherna Therapeutics is a privately held biopharmaceutical company developing first-in-class therapeutics for vascular diseases. Pantherna's innovative technology platform is based on advanced nanoparticles for the delivery and expression of therapeutic mRNA drugs in the endothelium. Pantherna is based in Hennigsdorf, Brandenburg (Innovationsforum) close to Berlin, Germany.

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About High-Tech Gründerfonds

High-Tech Gründerfonds (HTGF) is a seed investor that finances high-potential, tech-driven start-ups. With around EUR 900 million in total investment volume across three funds and an international network of partners, HTGF has already helped forge almost 600 start-ups since 2005. Driven by their expertise, entrepreneurial spirit and passion, its team of experienced investment managers and start-up experts help guide the development of young companies. HTGF's focus is on high-tech start-ups in the fields of digital business models, industrial technology, life sciences, chemistry and related business areas. To date, external investors have injected over EUR 2.5 billion into the HTGF portfolio via more than 1,600 follow-on financing rounds. HTGF has also successfully sold interests in more than 100 companies.

Investors in the public-private partnership include the Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy, KfW Capital, the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft and 32 companies. [Our Fund Investors](#).

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