

PRESS RELEASE

Pantherna Therapeutics secures EUR 4.0 Mio. follow-on financing to advance its therapeutic mRNA development programs

Hennigsdorf, January 11, 2022 - **Pantherna Therapeutics today announces the successful completion of a follow-on financing round totaling EUR 4.0 Mio. led by existing investors Riesner Verwaltungs GmbH and High-Tech Gründerfonds. The proceeds of this round will be used to accelerate preclinical development activities for its lead program PAN004, an mRNA-based therapeutic for Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS).**

ARDS causes a life-threatening damage to the lungs induced by an excessive hyperinflammatory reaction of the lung tissue in response to bacterial and viral infections including SARS-CoV2 (COVID-19). No targeted therapy is available for this syndrome to prevent fluid retention and tissue damage to the lungs. Pantherna Therapeutics is developing a targeted therapy with a new mode of action by expressing a TIE-2 receptor agonist to restore endothelial barrier function.

“The new funds will be used to expand the PAN004 development activities and will also support Pantherna’s efforts to strengthen its R&D team and activities for advancing its mRNA therapeutics technology for new indications”, comments Dr. Jörg Kaufmann, CSO at Pantherna Therapeutics.

Prof. Detlev Riesner, Qiagen-co-founder and private investor of several Biotech companies, adds: *“Qiagen developed the purification of RNA nearly 40 years ago, and in recent years the outstanding impact of mRNA-technology for vaccination became obvious. I am more than happy to follow now the development of mRNA-technology to the urgent need of targeted therapy.”*

Dr. Anke Caßing, Principal at High-Tech Gründerfonds, adds: *“We are delighted to assist in the new funding round to bring Pantherna’s innovation a huge step closer to the clinic.”*

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) 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 more than 650 start-ups since 2005. Driven by their expertise, entrepreneurial spirit and passion, its team of experienced investment managers and startup experts help guide the development of young companies. HTGF's focus is on high-tech start-ups in the fields of digital tech, industrial technology, life sciences, chemistry and related business areas. To date, external investors have injected more than EUR 3.5 billion into the HTGF portfolio via more than 1,800 follow-on financing rounds. HTGF has also successfully sold interests in more than 150 companies.

Investors in this public-private partnership include the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, KfW Capital, and Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft e.V., as well as the companies ALTANA, BASF, BAYER, B.Braun, Boehringer Ingelheim, Robert Bosch, BÜFA, CEWE, Deutsche Bank, Deutsche Post DHL, Dräger, 1+1 AG, EVONIK, EWE AG, FOND OF, Haniel, Hettich, Knauf, Körber, LANXESS, media + more venture Beteiligungs GmbH & Co. KG, PHOENIX CONTACT, QIAGEN, RWE Generation SE, SAP, Schufa, Schwarz Gruppe, STIHL, Thüga, Vector Informatik, WACKER and Wilh. Werhahn KG.

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