

Media Release

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Pureos invests in EUR 71 million financing of LAVA Therapeutics

- *LAVA Therapeutics is developing a proprietary bispecific antibody platform to engage with gamma-delta T cells for the treatment of hematological and solid cancers*
- *Proceeds will be used to advance bispecific gamma-delta T cell engager programs through the early clinical stages*

Zurich, Switzerland, 17 September 2020 - Pureos Bioventures today announced its investment in LAVA Therapeutics. LAVA is a Utrecht, the Netherlands and Philadelphia based biotech company, focusing on the development of bispecific antibodies to engage gamma-delta T cells for cancer therapies. LAVA has raised EUR 71 million in an oversubscribed Series C financing and will use this funding to support advancement of its powerful bispecific gamma-delta T cell engager programs for the treatment of a broad range of cancers. The financing was co-led by new investors Novo Ventures and Sanofi Ventures, and included additional new investors BB Pureos Bioventures, Redmile Group and Ysios Capital. In addition, current investors Gilde Healthcare, MRL Ventures Fund and Versant participated in the round.

Gamma-delta T cells are the natural surveillance cells of the immune system, continuously patrolling the human body for the identification and targeting of tumor cells. These cells bridge the innate with the adaptive immune system and are a largely untapped opportunity in cancer treatment. LAVA's bispecific gamma-delta T cell engager platform is harnessing the unique properties of these T cells creating a revolutionary truly tumor-targeted immunotherapy to improve outcomes for cancer patients.

“We are grateful to have attracted a high-quality syndicate of new investors complementing strong continued support of our existing investors. This financing provides meaningful capital to advance our bispecific gamma-delta T cell engager portfolio into multiple proof-of-concept clinical trials expected to start in 2021 for the treatment of solid tumors and hematologic malignancies,” said Stephen Hurly, chief executive officer of Lava Therapeutics. “We believe our targeted approach, leveraging the unique features of gamma-delta T cells with innovative bispecific antibodies, will deliver novel T cell-based therapies offering advantages over today's oncology treatments”.

Dr. Martin Münchbach, founding Partner of Pureos Bioventures, joined Lava's board of directors as an observer with the closing of this Series C financing.

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About LAVA Therapeutics

Lava Therapeutics is developing a proprietary bispecific antibody platform that engages gamma-delta T cells for the treatment of hematological and solid cancers. The company's first-in-class immunology approach activates V γ 9V δ 2 T cells upon binding to membrane-expressed tumor targets. Lava Therapeutics was founded in 2016 based on intellectual property originating from the Amsterdam University Medical Center. The company has established a highly experienced antibody research and development team located in Utrecht, the Netherlands and Philadelphia, USA.

For more information, please visit www.lavatherapeutics.com

About Pureos Bioventures

Pureos Bioventures is a newly formed venture capital fund, advised by Bellevue Asset Management. Pureos invests exclusively in private innovative drug development companies, with a special emphasis on the next generation of biological drugs and drug formats. The fund's portfolio companies are built on scientific excellence to develop therapies across a broad indication spectrum including oncology, immunology, ophthalmology, rare diseases, and neuroscience. Pureos has built a team with deep investment, operating, and clinical expertise, that strives to impact patients' lives by advancing innovative treatments for devastating diseases.

For more information visit www.pureosbio.com

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