

IXALTIS strengthens its portfolio by entering into an agreement with XIGEN

Toulouse (31) / Archamps (74), October 2nd, 2017 - **Ixaltis**, the start-up specialized in developing treatments for urogenital disorders, and **Xigen**, a privately-owned biopharmaceutical company that specializes in the development of peptides for use against inflammation, have signed an option agreement for exclusive worldwide rights to one compound in urogenital diseases.

Following this agreement, **Ixaltis** will perform preclinical proof of concept (POC) for two of Xigen's compounds - XG-102 and XG-104 - in animal models and human tissues. XG-102, an innovative JNK inhibitor, has been successfully tested in clinical trials for ocular diseases and is already licensed out for another promising indication. XG-104, a second JNK inhibitor, is an L/D-amino-acids peptide.

In the case of positive outcome in the POC program, the selected compound, either XG-102 or XG-104, would be expected to enter a phase 1/2 clinical trial in patients to demonstrate safety and efficacy in a urogenital indication with high unmet medical need such as Interstitial cystitis.

"This agreement, said Roberto Gradnik, CEO of Ixaltis, represents a significant step forward for us in the path to become a leading developer of innovative treatments for urogenital diseases".

Having already acquired the rights for Litoxetine IXA-001, the agreement with Xigen allows **Ixaltis** to extend its portfolio of innovative compounds used for urinary disorders with a very high unmet medical need.

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Ixaltis is a start-up pharmaceutical company specialized in genitourinary and renal diseases. It has acquired the rights to three molecules from Sanofi, and completed a round A of financing in 2016 to develop these compounds further. The company recently launched its first Phase II clinical study for its leading compound Litoxetine IXA-001.

Xigen, founded in 2002, is a spin-off from the University Hospital of Lausanne (CHUV). The company specializes in the research and development of innovative therapeutic peptides with a focus on inflammatory diseases. Xigen's proprietary technology has enabled the design and synthesis of cell-penetrating peptides with enhanced metabolic stability, using proprietary carrier motifs to selectively deliver them to intracellular targets in disease relevant cell types.

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