

## **EVOTEC ANNOUNCES FIRST FUNDED PROJECTS OF TRANSLATIONAL BRIDGE beLAB1407 IN COLLABORATION WITH BRISTOL MYERS SQUIBB**

- ▶ *FIRST TWO PROJECTS FROM THE UNIVERSITIES OF BIRMINGHAM AND EDINBURGH SELECTED*
- ▶ *beLAB1407 IS A TRANSLATIONAL BRIDGE COLLABORATION BETWEEN EVOTEC AND BRISTOL MYERS SQUIBB*

### **Hamburg, Germany, 27 October 2021:**

Evotec SE (Frankfurt Stock Exchange: EVT, MDAX/TecDAX, ISIN: DE0005664809) today announced the first two projects to be developed within beLAB1407, a collaboration between Evotec and Bristol Myers Squibb to accelerate translational research from the UK's academic life science ecosystem. Only six months after signing the beLAB1407 collaboration agreement in May 2021, the first projects to be developed within this academic BRIDGE collaboration have now been identified.

Both projects offer innovative and promising new mechanisms to treat cancer. The first project is based on the findings of Dr Paul Badenhorst at the University of Birmingham's Institute of Cancer and Genomic Sciences. The project aims to develop novel small molecule inhibitors targeting an epigenetic reader associated with the survival of cancer cells.

The second project has its origins in the lab of Dr Ashish Dhir at the University of Edinburgh's MRC Institute of Genetics and Cancer and focuses on the development of small molecules promoting interferon signaling, driving an inflammation-mediated anti-tumour response.

Both projects will now be validated and developed within beLAB1407, making use of Evotec's integrated discovery and development platform. The goal of beLAB1407 is to develop academic projects to value inflection points that allow the formation of new jointly owned spin-off companies.

**Dr Thomas Hanke, EVP & Head of Academic Partnerships at Evotec, commented:** "We are delighted to announce the first funded projects at beLAB1407 and we are looking forward to accelerating the promising translational work of

Drs Badenhorst and Dhir in the area of novel cancer treatments on Evotec's integrated drug discovery & development infrastructure called the 'Data-driven R&D Autobahn to Cures' towards a hit identification and beyond. At the same time, we are pleased to receive additional promising applications from scientists working within the beLAB1407 member institutions in Birmingham, Nottingham, Edinburgh and Dundee, and are looking forward to expanding the scope of the project portfolio further."

**Dr Paul Badenhorst, Senior Lecturer at the University of Birmingham's Institute of Cancer and Genomic Sciences, said:** "The award of funding from the beLAB1407 BMS-Evotec Academic Collaboration marks a significant step in our ongoing research programmes to understand the roles of epigenetic readers in cancer, and to develop new strategies for therapeutic intervention in a diverse range of cancer types."

**Dr Ashish Dhir, Chancellor's Fellow at the University of Edinburgh's MRC Institute of Genetics and Cancer, said:** "I'm truly honoured to receive this funding from beLAB1407 that will drive our fundamental research towards drug development, an important leap towards the clinic. As an early career researcher, this is a fantastic endorsement of the research vision and exciting science in my lab."

beLAB1407 is backed by Evotec in collaboration with Bristol Myers Squibb. The total volume of US\$ 20 m will allow for several more funding rounds. For more information on beLAB1407, visit [www.belab1407.org](http://www.belab1407.org).

#### **About Evotec's BRIDGE model: Partnering to accelerate innovation**

Evotec has created a new paradigm to translate early-stage academic research to drug discovery and development called "BRIDGE" (Biomedical Research, Innovation & Development Generation Efficiency), an integrated fund and award framework to tap into academic science to accelerate the formation of spin-out companies and generate collaborations with Pharma and biotech. Through these efforts, Evotec has defined a new formula for fast-track early-stage drug discovery. Since the launch of the BRIDGE model in 2016, Evotec has formed and funded a number of different collaborations, e.g. LAB282, LAB150, LAB031, LAB10x, Autobahn Labs, Argobio and Danube-Labs. Please visit [www.evotec.com/en/innovate/bridges](http://www.evotec.com/en/innovate/bridges) to learn more about Evotec's BRIDGES.

#### *ABOUT EVOTEC SE*

*Evotec is a life science company with a unique business model that delivers on its mission to discover and develop highly effective therapeutics and make them available to the patients. The Company's*

*multimodality platform comprises a unique combination of innovative technologies, data and science for the discovery, development, and production of first-in-class and best-in-class pharmaceutical products. Evotec leverages this “Data-driven R&D Autobahn to Cures” for proprietary projects and within a network of partners including all Top 20 Pharma and over 800 biotechnology companies, academic institutions, as well as other healthcare stakeholders. Evotec has strategic activities in a broad range of currently underserved therapeutic areas, including e.g. neurology, oncology, as well as metabolic and infectious diseases. Within these areas of expertise, Evotec aims to create the world-leading co-owned pipeline for innovative therapeutics and has to-date established a portfolio of more than 200 proprietary and co-owned R&D projects from early discovery to clinical development. Evotec operates globally with more than 3,900 highly qualified people. The Company’s 14 sites offer highly synergistic technologies and services and operate as complementary clusters of excellence. For additional information please go to [www.evotec.com](http://www.evotec.com) and follow us on Twitter [@Evotec](https://twitter.com/Evotec) and [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/evotec).*

#### **FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

*This announcement contains forward-looking statements concerning future events, including the proposed offering and listing of Evotec’s securities. Words such as “anticipate,” “believe,” “could,” “estimate,” “expect,” “intend,” “may,” “might,” “plan,” “potential,” “should,” “target,” “would” and variations of such words and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Such statements include comments regarding completion of the offering. These forward-looking statements are based on the information available to, and the expectations and assumptions deemed reasonable by Evotec at the time these statements were made. No assurance can be given that such expectations will prove to have been correct. These statements involve known and unknown risks and are based upon a number of assumptions and estimates, which are inherently subject to significant uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are beyond the control of Evotec. Evotec expressly disclaims any obligations or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in Evotec’s expectations with respect thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any statement is based.*