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Optieum Biotechnologies Inc

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Announcement of Research License and Option Agreement with GI CELL

Optieum Biotechnologies Inc., and GI CELL (HQ: Seongnam, Korea / CEO: Dr. Chun Pyo Hong) have entered into a Research License and Option Agreement for development of chimeric antigen receptor (CAR)-NK Cell Therapies.

The Research License and Option Agreement will aim to generate novel CAR-NK cells with GI CELL's CAR-NK technology platform and Optieum's novel scFv antibodies against hematological tumor targets.

Optieum Biotechnologies has a proprietary platform to identify functional scFv/CAR constructs that enhance therapeutic efficacy against targets of interest. Whereas, GI CELL has developed an NKPURE Expander® platform that generates superior NK cells with high efficiency, safety, as well as manufacturability.

Under the terms of the agreement, GI CELL will receive a license option. Upon exercise of the option, Optieum will receive an upfront exercise fee and payments upon successful achievement of certain clinical development milestones in the future. In addition, Optieum is eligible to receive royalties on future sales of products that arise from the license.

“We are pleased to enter this collaboration with Optieum Biotechnologies as we continue unlocking the full potential of our NKPURE Expander® platform,” said Dr. Chun Pyo Hong, CEO of GI CELL. “We look forward to evaluating the scFv antibodies from Optieum Biotechnologies' discovery platform, which have the potential to accelerate the development of our novel CAR-NK cells.”

“We have been dedicated to expanding the toolbox to enable immune cell-based therapies in cancer treatment, through our proprietary Eumbody System. Optieum Biotechnologies' strength in discovery of functional and improved scFvs in conjunction with GI CELL's expertise in NK cell engineering and manufacturing may lead to a generation of promising cellular immunotherapy for unmet medical needs,” said Shun Nishioka, CEO of Optieum Biotechnologies.

About GI CELL

GI CELL is a biotechnology company that drives research and development of novel immune cell-based therapies with innovative technologies. Using its proprietary Immune Cell^{PURE} Expander® platform for highly potent NK and T cell development, GI CELL has integrated its ancillary material screening and cell expansion technologies to streamline the entire cell product development process. The Company is advancing its allogenic NK cell therapies to transform the treatment paradigm for patients with

hematological malignancies and solid tumors. GI CELL has multiple NK cell product candidates in IND-enabling and preclinical development.

For more information, please visit <https://www.gi-cell.com/en/>.

About Optieum Biotechnologies

Optieum Biotechnologies is a biotechnology company with a platform engine to elicit functional and improved scFvs for CAR-T cell and CAR-NK therapies with superior anti-tumor toxicity and persistence. Optieum Biotechnologies' scFv generation platform, Eumbody System, enables to acquire the scFv from the CAR-T cell's functionality perspective rather than conventional binding affinity approach. The company is advancing multiple CAR-T cell product candidates targeting hematological malignancies and solid tumors which demonstrate significantly improved anti-tumor toxicity, proliferation capacity and mitigated antigen depletion.

For more information, please visit <https://optieumbio.com/>