

Sensorion announces €5.6m non-dilutive funding to support SENS-401 Phase 2 study in Sudden Sensorineural Hearing Loss French ministry of armed forces to participate in the study

- *Sensorion is leading a consortium including the French Army Biomedical Research Center (IRBA), Institut Pasteur and Electronique du Mazet¹*
- *The consortium (named PATRIOT) has been awarded €10.8m non-dilutive funding to finance the development of SENS-401 in Sudden Sensorineural Hearing Loss (SSNHL), an unmet medical need*
- *The French ministry of Armed Forces will permit French military personnel exposed to impulse noise during their professional activities to volunteer to participate in this clinical study*

Montpellier, December 23, 2019 – Sensorion (FR0012596468 – ALSEN / PEA-PME eligible) a pioneering clinical-stage biotech company which specializes in the development of novel therapies to restore, treat and prevent within the field of hearing loss disorders, announces that the French government has awarded the PATRIOT consortium a Structuring Research and Development Project for Competitiveness (“Projet de recherche et développement Structurant pour la Compétitivité” - PSPC) non-dilutive funding. This grant will be used to finance the development of SENS-401 in SSNHL, including work by Institut Pasteur to identify response biomarkers. This project fits with the spirit of the strategic collaboration established between Sensorion and Institut Pasteur and announced on the 27th of May 2019. The financing is conditioned upon the execution of a financing agreement with Bpifrance within three months.

The PATRIOT consortium consists of Sensorion, the French Army Biomedical Research Center (IRBA), Institut Pasteur and Electronique du Mazet¹, a French MedTech company focusing on hearing assessment and diagnostics. This project structures collaborative research and development to respond to a high unmet medical need and contributes to the development of SENS-401 as a treatment option, up to regulatory approval.

The commitment and active involvement of the French ministry of Armed Forces to this project emphasizes on a clear unmet medical need and on the necessity to have efficient diagnostics and therapeutic solutions. Auditory deficit is an invisible injury causing disabilities and potential social isolation. An epidemiological surveillance report from the French armed forces’ epidemiology and public health center revealed that 62% of military personnel suffered from hearing loss following an acute noise trauma over the 2014-2016 period.²

The participation of the French Army in the Phase 2 study represents the largest military trial ever conducted in France. It will be carried out in multiple military sites where patients will be recruited according to the protocol approved by an ethics committee.

“We are extremely pleased to have the support of the French ministry of Armed Forces and the involvement of military personnel in our ongoing Phase 2 study. We believe their involvement significantly de-risks the overall study and increases the quality of the data we can collect. The project will receive €10.8m non-dilutive funding, staged over five years. Sensorion will receive €5.6m over the duration of the project.” says **Nawal Ouzren, CEO of Sensorion**.

About SENS-401

SENS-401 (Araszetron), is a drug candidate that aims to protect and preserve inner ear tissue from damage that can cause progressive or sequellar hearing impairment. A small molecule that can be taken orally or via an injection, SENS-401 has received Orphan Drug Designation in Europe for the treatment of sudden sensorineural hearing loss, and Orphan Drug Designation from the US FDA for the prevention of platinum-induced ototoxicity

¹ Through its subsidiary named ECHODIA

² Traumatismes sonores aigus dans les armées - Résultats de la surveillance épidémiologique 2014-2016 – Centre d’épidémiologie et de santé des armées – July 12, 2018

in pediatric population. It has received Investigational New Drug (IND) clearance from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

About SENS-401 Phase 2 trial

The AUDIBLE-S Phase 2 is a multi-center, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of SENS-401 in subjects with severe or profound sudden sensorineural hearing loss (SSNHL). Included patients will receive twice a day for 4 weeks one of the following: a 43,5mg dose of SENS-401, a 29mg dose of SENS-401 or a placebo. The primary endpoint is change in pure tone audiometry PTA (dB) in the affected ear from baseline to the end of treatment visit (day 28).

About Sensorion

Sensorion is a pioneering clinical-stage biotech company, which specializes in the development of novel therapies to restore, treat and prevent within the field of hearing loss disorders. Its clinical-stage portfolio includes one Phase 2 product: SENS-401 (Arazasetron) for sudden sensorineural hearing loss (SSNHL). Sensorion has built a unique R&D technology platform to expand its understanding of the pathophysiology and etiology of inner ear related diseases enabling it to select the best targets and modalities for drug candidates. The Company has also identified biomarkers to improve diagnosis and treatment of these underserved illnesses. Sensorion has launched in the second half of 2019 two preclinical gene therapy programs aiming at correcting hereditary monogenic forms of deafness including Usher Type 1 and deafness caused by a mutation of the gene encoding for Otoferlin. The Company is uniquely placed through its platforms and pipeline of potential therapeutics to make a lasting positive impact on hundreds of thousands of people with inner ear related disorders; a significant global unmet medical need.

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