



# Sensorion appoints gene therapy expert Dr Géraldine Honnet as Chief Medical Officer

- New Chief Medical Officer has a deep expertise in gene therapy and small molecule clinical development across disease areas
- · Appointment accelerates strategic move into gene therapy to potentially restore hearing

**Montpellier, February 19, 2020 – Sensorion (FR0012596468 – ALSEN)** 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 the appointment of gene therapy expert Géraldine Honnet MD, as Chief Medical Officer.

Géraldine Honnet is a medical doctor and joins from Généthon, where she spent nine years as Chief Medical Officer, overseeing international gene therapy clinical trials in multiple rare diseases. Géraldine was responsible for the development of Généthon pipeline from pre-clinical to registration, managing Medical Affairs, Clinical Development, Clinical Operations and Regulatory affairs departments. Dr Honnet was previously a Medical Director at clinical research organization Parexel International and International Project Manager for Janssen-Cilag (Johnson & Johnson), before joining biotech company Transgene in 2007, where she was responsible for developing gene therapy products in infectious diseases.

"I am delighted to welcome Géraldine Honnet to Sensorion as our new CMO. Géraldine is a superb addition for Sensorion's team with her extensive expertise in gene therapy and clinical trials in the field. This is an area in which Sensorion has made tremendous progress in 2019 and has become a key pillar of the company as we continue to innovate to develop novel therapies to restore, treat and prevent within the field of hearing loss disorders" says Nawal Ouzren, CEO of Sensorion.

Sensorion launched two preclinical gene therapy programs in 2019 under the framework agreement signed with Institut Pasteur, aimed at correcting hereditary monogenic forms of deafness including deafness caused by a mutation of the gene encoding for Otoferlin and Usher Syndrome Type 1. Sensorion is focused on the ongoing development of SENS-401 and these two preclinical gene therapy programs.

Géraldine Honnet joins a strengthened team of experts, including Juergen Heitmann, PhD who joined Sensorion as Chief Business Officer in September 2019 after having been an advisor since 2017. Juergen brings more than 20 years of experience in business development in the pharmaceutical industry, including with Novartis, Nycomed and Takeda. Last year, Sensorion also appointed John Furey, former COO of the leading global gene therapy developer Spark Therapeutics, as independent board member.

"We are also pleased to have welcome Juergen Heitmann to his new role as CBO. Juergen's experience has already proven invaluable for Sensorion's strategic development and we look forward to further developing our pipeline together" adds Nawal Ouzren.

### **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 is also working on the identification of biomarkers to improve diagnosis 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



### Press release

therapeutics to make a lasting positive impact on hundreds of thousands of people with inner ear related disorders; a significant global unmet medical need. www.sensorion-pharma.com

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