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NEOVACS CONFIRMS POTENT AND LONG-LASTING BIOLOGICAL ACTIVITY OF IFN α -KINOID 4 YEARS AFTER PATIENT DOSING IN PHASE I/IIa TRIAL

Company presented extended follow-up data on IFN α -Kinoid at 11th international congress on Lupus

Paris and Boston, September 9, 2015 – NEOVACS (Alternext Paris : ALNEV), a leader in active immunotherapies for the treatment of autoimmune diseases, today announced that it presented extended follow-up data from the Phase I/IIa clinical trial of IFN α -Kinoid during *Lupus 2015*, the 11th International Congress on Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE), which took place from 2 to 6 September 2015 in Vienna, Austria.

“The results we presented at Lupus 2015 show that our lead product candidate induces a lasting, polyclonal, neutralizing anti-IFN α response in SLE patients. This is an extremely positive sign as we are about to launch the Phase IIb trial of IFN α -Kinoid in SLE” commented Thérèse Croughs, M.D., Chief Medical Officer of Neovacs.

This new data¹, collected as part of the Phase I/IIa extended follow-up study of six IFN α -Kinoid-treated patients, demonstrates that anti-IFN α neutralizing antibodies generated by IFN α -Kinoid continue to be present four years after the first immunization, and maintain the normalization of the IFN α signature. This confirms previously reported results².

The study also highlights the association between anti-IFN α neutralizing antibodies and the decreased expression of induced genes associated with B cell activation. B-cell activation, like the IFN α -signature, has been linked to the pathogenesis of SLE lupus.³

Follow up data from the Phase I/IIa clinical trial was presented in the poster *“IFN α -kinoid (IFN-K) induces neutralizing anti-IFN α antibodies that decrease the expression of IFN-induced and B cell activation associated transcripts : Analysis of extended follow-up data from the IFN-K Phase I/IIa study”*¹ on Friday, September 4, 2015 in Vienna.

¹ J. Ducreux, et al, Lupus 2015, Poster Session P04 Treatment.

² Neovacs has previously reported the strong level of biological activity of IFN α -Kinoid at 6 months after first immunization with IFN α -Kinoid. See Bernard Lauwerys et al., Down-Regulation of Interferon Signature in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus Patients by Active Immunization With Interferon –Kinoid, *Arthritis & Rheumatism* Vol. 65, No. 2, February 2013.

³ Kiefer K, Oropallo MA, Cancro MP, et al. Role of type I interferons in the activation of autoreactive B cells. *Immunol Cell Biol* 2012

About the extended follow-up study of Phase I/IIa of IFN α -Kinoid in Lupus

Data was collected on six IFN α -Kinoid-treated patients included in the Phase I/IIa clinical trial of IFN α -Kinoid in SLE or lupus. Five of the six patients presented a positive IFN-signature at baseline. The same level of normalization of the IFN-signature as previously reported was observed in two out of five patients who developed neutralizing antibodies. Correlation in the increase of C3 serum level and neutralizing anti-IFN α antibodies also persisted in the same two patients, confirming previously reported results.

About Neovacs

Created in 1993, Neovacs is today a leading biotechnology company focused on an active immunotherapy technology platform (Kinoids) with applications in autoimmune and/or inflammatory diseases. On the basis of the company's proprietary technology for inducing a polyclonal immune response (covered by five patent families that potentially run until 2032) Neovacs is focusing its clinical development efforts on IFN α -Kinoid, an immunotherapy being developed for the indication of lupus and dermatomyositis. Neovacs is also conducting preclinical development works on other therapeutic vaccines in the fields of auto-immune diseases, oncology and allergies. The goal of the Kinoid approach is to enable patients to have access to safe treatments with efficacy that is sustained in these life-long diseases.

For more information on Neovacs, please visit www.neovacs.fr

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