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# NEOVACS STRENGTHENS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY POSITION IN EUROPE AND JAPAN

# Newly issued patent covers IFN $\alpha$ Kinoid and its application in all diseases related to an overproduction of IFN $\alpha$ cytokine

Paris and Boston, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 18:00 pm CEST – Neovacs (Euronext Growth Paris: ALNEV), a leader in active immunotherapy for the treatment of autoimmune diseases, today announces that the patent entitled, "Method for treating Interferon alpha related conditions" has been granted by the European Patent Office and the Japan Patent Office.

Beyond the EU, Japan and Hong-Kong, this patent has also been granted in the U.S., China, Russia and Mexico, to globally protect IFN $\alpha$  Kinoid, for medical conditions characterized by an overexpression of the cytokine IFN $\alpha$ , as observed in many autoimmune diseases, including lupus, dermatomyositis and type 1 diabetes, at least until 2032.

**Miguel Sieler, Chief Executive Officer commented**: "The issuance of this patent further supports our objective of becoming a leading player in the treatment of diseases related to the overproduction of the cytokine IFN $\alpha$ , especially lupus, Dermatomyositis and Type 1 diabetes. Moreover, the strengthening of our intellectual property portfolio is a key element of our international development strategy for the Company's IFN $\alpha$  Kinoid vaccine."

Neovacs' ongoing clinical phase IIb study with IFN $\alpha$  Kinoid for the treatment of lupus is currently being conducted in approximately 100 investigation centres in 25 countries. A total of 185 patients suffering from moderate to severe lupus have been enrolled in this study. All patients have completed the main study period. The results of the trial are expected to be available by the end of June 2018.

# **About Neovacs Technology**

Neovacs targets pathologies associated with an overproduction of endogenous cytokines. This technology is based on active immunotherapy to generate an immune response through the administration of an immunogenic complex involving the target cytokine to a carrier protein. The intramuscular injection of this Kinoid induces an immune response and stimulates the production of polyclonal antibodies against the target cytokines. It is thus possible to block cytokine overproduction and its pharmacological effects. Several autoimmune and inflammatory diseases (e.g. systemic lupus erythematosus, dermatomyositis, Type 1 diabetes etc.) are characterized by a disorder of cytokines that are found to be produced in excess (ex: IFN $\alpha$ ), promoting inflammation and dysregulation of the immune system.

## **About Neovacs**

Listed on Euronext Growth since 2010, 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 four patent families that potentially run until 2032) Neovacs is focusing its clinical development efforts on IFN $\alpha$  Kinoid, an immunotherapy being developed for the indication of lupus, dermatomyositis and also in preclinical trial for Type 1 diabetes. 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. www.neovacs.fr

### **Contacts**

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