Persbericht
4 oktober 2018
7u00 CEST

Celyad kondigt exclusieve overeenkomst aan voor het shRNA-platform van Horizon Discovery om allogene CAR-T therapieën van de volgende generatie te ontwikkelen

In vivo studie-resultaten op jaarlijkse bijeenkomst van Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC)

Mont-Saint-Guibert, Belgium – Celyad (Euronext Brussel en Parijs, en NASDAQ: CYAD), een klinisch biofarmaceutisch bedrijf dat zich richt op de ontwikkeling van celgebaseerde CAR-T behandelingen, heeft vandaag een exclusieve overeenkomst aangekondigd met Horizon Discovery Group plc (LSE: HZD), voor het gebruik van haar shRNA-technologie om het tweede niet-gen-bewerkte allogene platform van Celyad te genereren.

Onlangs kondigde Celyad haar eerste "first-in-class" niet-gen-bewerkte allogene CAR-T kandidaat aan, CYAD-101, een niet-gen-bewerkte allogene NKG2D-gebaseerde CAR dat gebruik maakt van TIM (TCR inhibitor Molecule). Als gevolg van de overeenkomst met Horizon Discovery heeft Celyad nu ook toegang tot een nieuw shRNA-gebaseerd platform.

Gegevens uit preklinische studies die de veelzijdigheid van het shRNA-platform aantonen in de autologe benadering, zullen gepresenteerd worden tijdens de jaarlijke bijeenkomst van de Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) in Washington, D.C., 7 - 11 november. Deze veelbelovende preklinische gegevens maken de weg vrij voor de volgende stappen in de ontwikkeling van Celyad's gedifferentieerde niet-gen-bewerkte allogene benadering van CAR-T celtherapieën.

"We zijn verheugd gebruik te kunnen maken van het shRNA-platform van Horizon om onze baanbrekende aanpak van niet-gen-bewerkte allogene CAR-T-cellen verder te ontwikkelen", zei ***Dr. Christian Homsy, CEO van Celyad****. "Op basis van veelbelovende preklinische gegevens die tijdens het SITC congres zullen worden gepresenteerd is Celyad vastbesloten om snel te vorderen in haar allogeen programma. Deze gegevens zijn een "proof of concept" voor onze op shRNA gebaseerde niet-gen-bewerkte allogene benadering. Naast veelbelovende preklinische gegevens wordt onze allogene benadering ook verstevigd door Celyad's sterke octrooipositie in de Verenigde Staten, die in brede zin het gebruik van allogene CAR-T omvat met behulp van cellen die door TCR zijn geremd of onderdrukt. "*

Jon Moore, CSO van Horizon Discovery: "*De krachtige shRNA-technologie voor dewelke Celyad nu een licentie heeft, is dezelfde technologie die gebruikt wordt in onze SMARTvector-productreeks en is ontworpen om zeer specifieke doelen effectief te vernietigen. De samenwerking tussen Horizon en Celyad is bedoeld om Celyad de mogelijkheid te geven een heel effectieve oplossing voor haar behoeften te vinden. Horizon aanziet haar shRNA-technologie als een serieuze concurrent van gen-editingmethoden voor het leveren van verbeterde prestaties voor therapeutische celproducten. We zien een enorm potentieel in celtherapieën en zijn vastbesloten om innovatieve technologieën te ontwikkelen en te leveren waarmee onze partners transformatieve celtherapieën naar de kliniek kunnen brengen om zo te voldoen aan onvervulde klinische behoeften.*"

*** EINDE ***

About Celyad

Celyad is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on the development of specialized CAR-T cell-based therapies. Celyad utilizes its expertise in cell engineering to target cancer. Celyad's CAR-T cell platform has the potential to treat a broad range of solid and hematologic tumors. Its lead oncology candidate, CYAD-01 (CAR-T NKG2D), is currently evaluated in a Phase I dose escalation clinical trial to assess the safety and clinical activity of multiple administrations of autologous CYAD-01 cells in seven refractory cancers including five solid tumors (colorectal, ovarian, bladder, triple-negative breast and pancreatic cancers) and two hematological tumors (acute myeloid leukemia and multiple myeloma). The safety and clinical activity of the CYAD-01 therapy concurrently administered with standard-of-care treatments or preconditioning chemotherapy is also assessed in a full clinical development program focused on acute myeloid leukemia and colorectal cancer. Celyad was founded in 2007 and is based in Mont-Saint-Guibert, Belgium, and New York, NY. Celyad's ordinary shares are listed on the Euronext Brussels and Euronext Paris exchanges, and its American Depository Shares are listed on the NASDAQ Global Market, all under the ticker symbol CYAD.

For more information, please contact:

Celyad
investors@celyad.com
Filippo Petti, Chief Financial Officer

Communications@celyad.com
Carri Duncan, VP Corporate Development & Communications - T: +32(0) 10 39 41 87

For Belgium: Comfi
Sabine Leclercq - T.: +32 (0)2 290 90 91 – celyad@comfi.be

For France: NewCap
Pierre Laurent and Nicolas Mérigeau - T: + 33(0)1 44 71 94 94 - celyad@newcap.eu

For the U.S.: LifeSci Advisors
Daniel Ferry – T.: +1 (617) 535 7746 **–** daniel@lifesciadvisors.com
Public Relations: Allison Blum – T:+1 (646) 627 8383 - allison@lifescipublicrelations.com

About Horizon Discovery Group plc www.horizondiscovery.com

Horizon Discovery Group plc (LSE: HZD) ("Horizon") is a world leader in gene editing and gene modulation technologies. Horizon designs and engineers cells using its translational genomics platform, a highly precise and flexible suite of DNA editing tools (rAAV, ZFN, CRISPR and Transposon) and, following the acquisition of Dharmacon, Inc., its functional genomics platform comprising gene knockdown (RNAi) and gene expression (cDNA, ORF) tools, for research and clinical applications that advance human health. Horizon's platforms and capabilities enable researchers to alter almost any gene or modulate its function in human or mammalian cell lines.

Horizon offers an extensive range of catalogue products and related research services to support a greater understanding of the function of genes across all species and the genetic drivers of human disease and the development of personalized molecular, cell and gene therapies. These have been adopted by over 10,000 academic, drug discovery, drug manufacturing and clinical diagnostics customers around the globe, as well as in the Company's own R&D pipeline.

Horizon is headquartered in Cambridge, UK, and is listed on the London Stock Exchange's AIM market under the ticker "HZD."

For further information from Horizon Discovery Group plc, please contact:

Zyme Communications (Trade and Regional Media)

Katie Odgaard

Tel: +44 (0)7787 502 947

Email: katie.odgaard@zymecommunications.com

Horizon Discovery Group plc

Terry Pizzie, Chief Executive Officer

Richard Vellacott, Chief Financial Officer

Tel: +44 (0) 1223 655 580

Forward-looking statements

This release may contain forward-looking statements, including statements regarding the safety and efficacy of CYAD-01 and the new mAb manufacturing method used to manufacture this drug product candidate; statements concerning the ongoing and planned clinical development of CYAD-01, including the timing of data readouts and presentations; the clinical and commercial potential of CYAD-01 and the adequacy of Celyad's financial resources; Celyad's financial condition, results of operation and business outlook; and Celyad's expected cash burn. Forward-looking statements may involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which might cause actual results, financial condition and liquidity, performance or achievements of Celyad, or industry results, to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. In particular it should be noted that the interim data summarized above are preliminary in nature. There is limited data concerning safety and clinical activity following treatment with the CYAD-01 drug product candidate. These results may not be repeated or observed in ongoing or future studies involving the CYAD-01 drug product candidate. These forward-looking statements are further qualified by important factors and risks, which could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements, including statements about: the initiation, timing, progress and results of our preclinical studies and clinical trials, and our research and development programs; our ability to advance drug product candidates into, and successfully complete, clinical trials; our ability to successfully manufacture drug product for our clinical trials, including with our new mAb manufacturing process and with respect to manufacturing drug product with the desired number of T cells under our clinical trial protocols; our reliance on the success of our drug product candidates, including our dependence on the regulatory approval of CYAD-01 in the United States and Europe and subsequent commercial success of CYAD-01, both of which may never occur; the timing or likelihood of regulatory filings and approvals; our ability to develop sales and marketing capabilities; the commercialization of our drug product candidates, if approved; the pricing and reimbursement of our drug product candidates, if approved; the implementation of our business model, strategic plans for our business, drug product candidates and technology; the scope of protection we are able to establish and maintain for intellectual property rights covering our drug product candidates and technology; our ability to operate our business without infringing, misappropriating or otherwise violating the intellectual property rights and proprietary technology of third parties; cost associated with enforcing or defending intellectual property infringement, misappropriation or violation; product liability; and other claims; regulatory development in the United States, the European Union, and other jurisdictions; estimates of our expenses, future revenues, capital requirements and our needs for additional financing; the potential benefits of strategic collaboration agreements and our ability to enter into strategic arrangements; our ability to maintain and establish collaborations or obtain additional grant funding; the rate and degree of market acceptance of our drug product candidates, if approved; our financial performance; developments relating to our competitors and our industry, including competing therapies and statements regarding future revenue, hiring plans, expenses, capital expenditures, capital requirements and share performance. A further list and description of these risks, uncertainties and other risks can be found in Celyad's U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) filings and reports, including in its Annual Report on Form 20-F filed with the SEC on April 6, 2018 and subsequent filings and reports by Celyad. Given these uncertainties, the reader is advised not to place any undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of publication of this document and Celyad's actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Celyad expressly disclaims any obligation to update any such forward-looking statements in this document to reflect any change in its expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based, unless required by law or regulation.