Sprint Bioscience initiates marketing of an additional cancer drug program

Sprint Bioscience announces today that it is starting to market the DISA program to potential partners and, following a series of research advances, reveals the cancer drug program's target protein, TREX1. The goal of the program, currently in the preclinical phase, is to develop drugs that inhibit the protein TREX1 in order to enhance the effect of immuno-oncological therapy, radiation therapy and chemotherapy in the treatment of cancer. The company will initiate discussions with potential partners in connection with the BioEurope conference in October.

Cancer cells often have elevated levels of DNA fragments that have incorrectly ended up outside the cell nucleus. Since DNA fragments that are outside the cell nucleus can activate the immune system, cancer cells depend upon these DNA fragments being rapidly removed - if they are not, the body's immune system will attack the cancer cells.

The target protein in the Sprint Bioscience DISA project, TREX1 (three-prime repair exonuclease 1), is a protein that breaks down DNA fragments outside the cell nucleus and thus helps cancer cells escape the immune system. Scientific studies have previously shown that there is a link between elevated levels of the TREX1 protein and inferior survival for patients with certain types of cancer, including breast cancer, ovarian cancer, and pancreatic cancer.

The body's immune response towards cancer cells can be strengthened by inhibiting TREX1, which opens up the potential to enhance the effect of other therapies such as immuno-oncology therapy, radiation therapy, and cytotoxic drug treatment. Sprint Bioscience has secured a major competitive advantage by determining the three-dimensional structure of the human TREX1 protein, not previously reported in the scientific literature. This enables the company to make full use of the power of the fragment-based technology for drug development (FBDD) that is the company's hallmark, and at the same time further increases the opportunities to build shareholder value in this program.

“Inhibiting TREX1 is a unique approach with great potential to enhance the effect of several current therapies. Many modern cancer drugs depend on the immune system being able to identify the cancer cells, and with our TREX1 inhibitors, we have identified a way to stop the cancer cells' ability to hide from the immune system. We have now reached a strong competitive position in the program's development and look forward to discussions with potential partners.” says Martin Andersson, Chief Scientific Officer at Sprint Bioscience.sions with potential partners.” says Martin Andersson, head of research at Sprint Bioscience.

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About Sprint Bioscience

Sprint Bioscience develops small-molecule first-in-class drug projects with a focus on oncology. Using fragment-based drug discovery, the company develops drug projects in a time- and resource-efficient way. These are then out-licensed to global drug companies during the preclinical phase. The company has successfully entered into several license agreements amounting to a potential value of USD 747 million in milestone payments as well as income from royalties on sales.
The company is headquartered in Stockholm with laboratories in Huddinge. The Sprint Bioscience share is listed on the Nasdaq First North Premier Growth Market and is traded under the short name SPRINT. Further information is available on the company's website; www.sprintbioscience.com.

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