

Press Release

LDC and UGISense AG to Collaborate on New Drug Class

Dortmund, October 12, 2016 – Lead Discovery Center GmbH (LDC) and the biotech company UGISense AG are about to initiate a collaboration to jointly develop innovative drugs using the proprietary Ugimeres™ antisense platform. Additionally, LDC will acquire a minority stake in UGISense AG during a first 1.2 million Euros financing round involving several private investors. The partnership aims at combining the potential of the innovative Ugimeres antisense platform with LDC's drug discovery expertise and target know-how to maximize synergies and jointly commercialize successful projects.

"We see the Ugimeres platform as a highly exciting addition to our own in-house drug discovery technologies. We believe that the drug class of peptide nucleic acids (PNAs) offers enormous potential especially in the innovative field of microRNAs and for so far 'undruggable' targets", says Dr. Bert Klebl, CEO of the LDC. "We look forward to working closely with the UGISense team and to jointly advance our first pilot projects".

"We are very excited about the successful financing of UGISense AG and welcome our new partner LDC. This partnership will allow us to focus closely on the high-quality development and commercialization of Ugimeres as innovative drugs for targets with high unmet medical need", says Dr. Thomas Lindhorst of UGISense AG's executive board.

About UGISense AG

UGISense AG is a biotech company dedicated to developing new and innovative antisense drugs in collaboration with partners from the industry and academia. The developments are made on the basis of a proprietary platform technology, i.e. the Ugimeres™. The company, which was first established in 2016, is being financed by private investors and has been accredited by the Federal Office of Economics and Export Control (BAFA) (within the scope of their *Venture Capital Grants* program).

About Ugimeres™

Ugimeres™ are short oligonucleotide sequences capable of interacting with single-stranded DNA or RNA by forming a double strand. Thanks to said double-strand formation, disease-relevant proteins will be specifically prevented from forming altogether or will be reduced to only a modified stage. This makes it possible to therapeutically influence the development of diseases at a very early stage of intervention. Structurally, Ugimeres™ are derived from

peptide nucleic acids (PNAs) to which important pharmacological functions have been added by way of chemical modifications.

For more details please go to: www.ugisense.com

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About Lead Discovery Center GmbH (LDC)

LDC was established in 2008 by the technology transfer organization Max Planck Innovation, as a novel approach to capitalize on the potential of excellent basic research for the discovery of new therapies for diseases with high medical need.

The LDC takes on promising early-stage projects from academia and transforms them into innovative pharmaceutical leads that reach initial proof-of-concept in animals. In close collaboration with high-profile partners from academia and industry, the LDC is building a strong and growing portfolio of small molecule leads with exceptional medical and commercial potential.

The LDC sustains a preferred partnership with the Max Planck Society and has formed alliances with AstraZeneca, Bayer, Boehringer Ingelheim, Merck, Daiichi Sankyo, Qurient, Johnson & Johnson Innovation and Roche as well as leading translational drug discovery centers around the globe.

For more details please go to: www.lead-discovery.de

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