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Human clinical trials confirm safety and efficacy of encapsulated cell treatment for pancreatic cancer

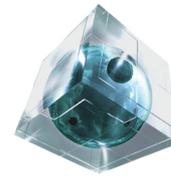
Clinical trial data on safety, efficacy and lack of toxicity of encapsulated cells plus low dose chemotherapy for cancer of the pancreas published

Singapore, August 14th 2014

Austrianova announced today the publication of a paper in the open access, peer reviewed, journal *Pharmaceutics* (<http://www.mdpi.com/1999-4923/6/3/447/htm>) showing the safety and efficacy of using encapsulated cells to treat pancreatic cancer. The results from a new previously unreported phase 2 multicentre clinical trial were presented and were compared with data from the first clinical trial previously published in *The Lancet* and *Cancer Therapy*. In both trials encapsulated cells were used to allow lower doses of chemotherapy to be used for effective treatment of pancreatic cancer while minimising the usual side effects. The newly published data from the phase 2 multicentre trial confirmed the results obtained in the previous trial and also confirmed the dose of chemotherapy administered in that trial. The trial also demonstrated that the procedure could be performed in 4 independent clinical centres located in two different countries. The survival data from these trials compares favourably with recently developed treatments for pancreatic cancer like abraxane and FOLFIRINOX, showing similar efficacy but with less toxicity. Austrianova partner, Nuvilex, Inc. will aim to provide additional clinical evidence in their upcoming clinical trials.

Brian Salmons, CEO of Austrianova stated “This publication summarises the clinical experience that has been obtained using encapsulated cells in combination with low dose chemotherapy for the treatment of pancreatic cancer in a total of 27 patients and forms the basis for future trials. We are pleased that the data has been published in the rigorously peer-reviewed, international journal *Pharmaceutics*”.

Walter H. Gunzburg, Chairman and CTO of Austrianova said “Pancreatic cancer is a devastating disease. This data strongly supports the use of encapsulated cells as an effective tool in the oncologists arsenal, while at the same time providing a low toxicity treatment option for patients. We look forward to working together with Nuvilex Inc., with the help of the Thailand Center of Excellence for Life Sciences (TCELS), to bring this technology into further trials so it becomes mainstream clinical practice as quickly as possible.”



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About Austrianova:

Austrianova, part of the SG Austria Group, is a biotech company with a global footprint and headquarters in Singapore. Austrianova utilizes a novel and proprietary technology for the encapsulation of living mammalian (Cell-in-a-Box®) and bacterial (Bac-in-a-Box®) cells. Cell-in-a-Box® protects the encapsulated cells from rejection by the immune system, allows cells to be easily transported, stored and implanted at specific sites in patients. The technology, which has been proven safe and efficacious in clinical trials carried out in Europe, allows companies to develop any kind of cells as a one-for-all living pharmaceutical. Bac-in-a-Box® is a similar protective device adapted for encapsulation of probiotic bacteria where it has human food and animal feed applications due to its ability for extending storage under lyophilized conditions and protection in stomach acid.