

## PRESS RELEASE

### **New Preclinical Data on STX-1, a First-in-Class Senolytic ADC, To Be Presented at AACR 2026**

Presentations highlight therapy-induced senescence as a new therapeutic opportunity and reinforce the potential of STX-1 as a differentiated approach for solid tumors

**Lille and Villejuif, France, April 16, 2026** – StarkAge Therapeutics, a biotechnology company pioneering first-in-class senolytic antibody-drug conjugates (ADC) for age-related diseases with an initial focus on oncology, today announced that it will present two posters at the **AACR Annual Meeting 2026**. These data strengthen the company's leadership in senescence-targeted oncology and support the development of STX-1, its **first-in-class DPP4-targeting ADC, as a novel therapeutic strategy** for patients with solid tumors who have limited treatment options.

*"These AACR presentations underscore the growing recognition that therapy-induced senescence is a key driver of tumor progression and resistance,"* said **Eric Angevin, MD, PhD, Chief Medical Officer**. *"By selectively eliminating DPP4-expressing cells in both tumor and stroma, particularly in the context of senescence, STX-1 has the potential to establish a new therapeutic approach for patients with limited treatment options. Our strategy is grounded in a strong translational foundation and aims to address a significant unmet need in solid tumors."*

In the translational poster, StarkAge and **Gustave Roussy Institute** characterize the impact of treatment-induced senescence in metastatic colorectal cancer and highlight **DPP4 (CD26)** as a senescence-associated biomarker expressed in both stromal and tumor compartments. The study integrates immunohistochemistry, bulk and single-cell RNA sequencing analyses across large patient datasets and characterize senescence-related biology and its potential implications for disease progression and treatment resistance.

In the preclinical poster, StarkAge will present data showing that **STX-1** demonstrated strong affinity for DPP4, high internalization, target-dependent cytotoxicity and *in vivo* antitumor activity, with enhanced activity in senescent cell-enriched tumors. The abstract also reports that senescence induction through chemo- or radiotherapy increased DPP4 expression, while senescent cancer cells remained sensitive to STX-1 treatment. *In vivo*, enhanced activity was observed in senescence-enriched tumors, and STX-1 was reported to be well tolerated in toxicology studies in mice expressing human DPP4.

## AACR 2026 Poster Details

### Preclinical poster

**Title:** *[STX-1, a first-in-class ADC targeting DPP4 protein, acts as an anticancer and senolytic treatment](#)*

**Session / Abstract #:** PO.ET02.01 - Antibody-Drug Conjugates and Linker Engineering 1

**Presenter:** Benjamin Le Calvé, StarkAge Therapeutics

**Date / Time:** April 20, 2026, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Location:** Section 12

### Translational poster

**Title:** *[Treatment-induced senescence in metastatic colorectal adenocarcinomas: implications for single-cell biology and therapeutic intervention](#)*

**Session / Abstract #:** PO.MCB04.02 - Senescence and Cell Stress

**Presenter:** Antoine Hollebecque, Drug Development Department (DITEP), Gustave Roussy, Villejuif, France

**Date / Time:** April 21, 2026, 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

**Location:** Section 24

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## About StarkAge Therapeutics

StarkAge Therapeutics is a biotechnology company based in Lille, France, pioneering first-in-class senolytic antibody–drug conjugates (ADCs) to address age-related diseases, with an initial focus on oncology.

## About STX-1

STX-1 is StarkAge Therapeutics' lead DPP4-targeting ADC, designed to combine anticancer and senolytic activity in tumors characterized by DPP4 expression and senescence-associated biology. STX-1 is currently progressing toward IND-enabling studies.

## Media Contact

### StarkAge Therapeutics

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