Vidac Pharma presents high efficacy in multiple solid tumor models for its next-generation cancer drug candidate and synergy with standard-of-care treatment in liver cancer organoids

London (UK), February 19, 2024, 7:30 am CET – Vidac Pharma Holdings Plc. (Hamburg and Stuttgart: T9G; ISIN:GB00BM9XQ619; WKN: A3DTUQ), a clinical-stage oncology biopharmaceutical company pioneering a novel class of cancer treatments, today announced promising results for its drug candidate VDA-1275 in multiple mouse cancer and human cellular organoid model of solid tumors. VDA-1275 showed statistically significant efficacy as a monotherapy, as well as synergistic effects in combination with two standard-of-care cancer treatments: sorafenib, a kinase inhibitor, and cisplatin, a widely used chemotherapy drug. The study also showed that VDA-1275 induced an immunologic response, inducing anti-tumor macrophages and memory T-cells, and inhibiting tumor-promoting macrophages. The company will present these findings on 28 February, at the Sachs 17th Annual European Life Sciences CEO Forum.

“It is an exciting moment for me to share these exceptionally strong results for VDA-1275, which is up to a hundred times more potent than our other drug candidate, VDA-1102,” Vidac Pharma Chief Executive Officer Max Herzberg said. “VDA-1275 is showing all the signs of being a potent inhibitor of cancer cell proliferation and being capable of reinstating programmed cell death, or apoptosis. The massive synergistic effect in combination with widely used cancer drugs offers hope that this selective therapy might become a routine part of combination treatments and reduce side effects of traditional chemotherapy.”

As a stand-alone treatment, VDA-1275 statistically significantly increased survival in a murine colorectal cancer model, with a survival benefit similar to Opdivo in a head-to-head comparison. Human and murine 2D and 3D cell culture models showed statistically significant survival in lung, prostate and colon cancer. In a 3-D organoid model of human liver cancer, VDA-1275 reduced the concentrations of sorafenib and cisplatin needed to achieve IC50 cancer cell viability by 50% and 95%, respectively. Finally, VDA-1275 triggered an immune response by inducing anti-tumor M1 macrophages and inhibiting tumor-promoting M2 macrophages. The molecule also induced a shift of mouse CD8+ effector T-cells to memory cells without a negative effect on T Cells survival. The company is planning to published the results in a peer-reviewed publication.

Both VDA-1275 and the more advanced VDA-1102, now in Phase 2b testing of advanced actinic keratosis and Phase 2 testing of cutaneous T cell lymphoma, disrupt the interaction between hexokinase 2 (HK2) and the voltage-dependent anion channels (VDACs) in mitochondria. Cancer cells overexpress HK2, which catalyzes the first step of the glucose metabolism necessary to fuel tumor growth. HK2 blocks VDACs, which prevents apoptosis, supports cancer cell proliferation, and suppresses immune responses. Clinical data for Vidac's first-generation metabolic checkpoint modulator candidates have shown powerful effects in halting cancer cell proliferation and restoring immune-sensitivity and apoptosis.

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About Vidac Pharma

Vidac Pharma is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company dedicated to discovering and developing first-in-class medicines to help people suffering from a range of oncologic and onco-dermatologic diseases. Vidac develops first-in-class anti-cancer drugs by modifying the hyper glycolytic tumor microenvironment, targeting the overexpression and wrong anchoring of the Hexokinase 2 metabolic checkpoint (HK2) in cancer cells, to renormalize tumor microenvironment and selectively provoke their programmed death without affecting surrounding normal tissue. VDA-1102, a first drug candidate of Vidac Pharma has shown to be effective against advanced Actinic Keratosis (AK) and interim results in Cutaneous T-cell Lymphoma (CTCL) gave positive effect in Phase 2 trials in humans. www.vidacpharma.com

Important information

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