

BioInvent and Transgene's Oncolytic Virus BT-001 Shows Promising Antitumor Activity in Ongoing Phase 1/2a Trial in Solid Tumors that Failed Previous Treatments

- Preliminary data presented at ESMO 2024 demonstrate BT-001 induces tumor regression in patients who failed previous anti-PD(L)-1 treatment
- In a patient with a heavily pretreated leiomyosarcoma, BT-001 was able to modulate the tumor microenvironment, turning a “cold” tumor to “hot”, enhancing the potential of T cell infiltration and a shift to PD(L)-1 positivity
- Early signs of efficacy with clinical responses observed with BT-001 in combination with KEYTRUDA® (pembrolizumab), in 2 of 6 patients who failed previous treatment

Lund, Sweden, and Strasbourg, France, September 14, 2024, 9:05 a.m. CEST –BioInvent International AB (“BioInvent”) (Nasdaq Stockholm: BINV), a biotech company focused on the discovery and development of novel and first-in-class immune-modulatory antibodies for cancer immunotherapy, and Transgene (Euronext Paris: TNG), a biotech company that designs and develops virus-based immunotherapies for the treatment of cancer, today announce new initial data from their ongoing Phase 2/2a study on the multifunctional oncolytic virus BT-001, demonstrating antitumor activity in patients with refractory solid tumors.

The data presented today at the 2024 European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) Annual Meeting, showed that BT-001 induced tumor regression in patients unresponsive to prior anti PD(L)-1 treatment, both as a monotherapy and in combination with MSD's (Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, NJ, USA) anti-PD-1 therapy KEYTRUDA® (pembrolizumab).

Preliminary translational data suggest that BT-001 replicates in the tumor where the payloads are expressed with undetectable systemic exposure. BT-001 alone or in combination with pembrolizumab was well tolerated and showed first signs of efficacy with clinical responses in 2 of 6 refractory patients when given in combination with pembrolizumab. BT-001 treatment turned “cold” tumors to “hot” inducing T cell infiltration, a higher M1/M2 ratio, and a shift to PD (L)-1 positivity in the tumor microenvironment.

Dr. S. Champiat, Medical Oncologist, Head of the Inpatient Unit, Drug Development Department (DITEP) at Institut Gustave Roussy, commented: “The immunological data generated by BT-001 suggest that, as hoped, BT-001 is replicating in the tumor and its payload of transgenes is expressed, with very limited exposure outside of the tumor thereby limiting systemic toxicity. I look forward to additional results from this ongoing study which will provide further evidence of the safety and clinical activity of BT-001 and its potential role as a new therapy for cancer patients with solid tumors.”

Transgene and BioInvent are co-developing BT-001, an oncolytic virus developed using Transgene's Invir.IO® platform armed to express GM-CSF and BioInvent's full-length anti-CTLA-4 monoclonal antibody, to elicit a strong and effective anti-tumoral response in solid tumors.

Alessandro Riva, Chairman and CEO of Transgene, said: "We are pleased to present the first promising clinical data on BT-001 at ESMO 2024 which confirm its mechanism of action as a single agent injected intratumorally and importantly demonstrate first signs of anti-tumor activity. Added to its good safety profile alone and in combination with pembrolizumab, BT-001 has the potential to shrink lesions and induce stable disease in refractory patients who may have few other treatment options. We will further explore the safety and efficacy of BT-001 in this development program with our partner BioInvent and report additional data when it becomes available."

Andres McAllister, MD, PhD, Chief Medical Officer at BioInvent International AB, concluded: "We are encouraged by the early clinical results presented at ESMO for BT-001, which encodes a potent Treg-depleting recombinant human anti-CTLA-4 antibody generated by our proprietary n-CoDeR® and F.I.R.S.T™ platforms,. This clinical proof of concept confirms our ability to identify antibodies that bind to a selected target but exhibit a differentiated activity, allowing the development of promising new drug candidates such as BT-001."

The abstract and Poster titled: "Initial clinical results of BT-001, an oncolytic virus expressing an anti-CTLA4 mAb, administered as single agent and in combination with pembrolizumab in patients with advanced solid tumors."

The poster can be accessed at the company's website <https://www.bioinvent.com/en/our-science/scientific-publications>.

KEYTRUDA® is a registered trademark of Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC, a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, NJ, USA.

About the trial

The ongoing Phase 1/2a ([NCT: 04725331](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT04725331)) study is a multicenter, open label, dose-escalation trial evaluating BT-001 as a single agent and in combination with pembrolizumab (anti-PD-1 treatment). Patient inclusions are ongoing in Europe (France, Belgium) and the trial has been authorized in the US.

Phase 1 is divided into two parts. In part A, patients with metastatic/advanced tumors receive single agent, intra-tumoral administrations of BT-001. Part B explores the combination of intra-tumoral injections of BT-001 with pembrolizumab. In this part, KEYTRUDA® (pembrolizumab) is provided to the trial by MSD (Merck & Co).

Phase 2a will evaluate the combination regimen in several patient cohorts with selected tumor types. These expansion cohorts will offer the possibility of exploring the activity of this approach to treat other malignancies not traditionally addressed with this type of treatment.

About BT-001

BT-001 is an oncolytic virus generated using Transgene's Invir.IO® platform and its patented large-capacity VVcopTK-RR- oncolytic virus, which has been engineered to encode both a Treg-depleting human recombinant anti-CTLA-4 antibody generated by BioInvent's proprietary n-CoDeR®/F.I.R.S.T™ platforms, and the human GM-CSF cytokine. By selectively targeting the tumor microenvironment, BT-001 is expected to elicit a much stronger and more effective antitumoral response. As a consequence, by reducing systemic exposure, the safety and tolerability profile of the anti-CTLA-4 antibody may be greatly improved.

BT-001 is being co-developed as part of a 50/50 collaboration on oncolytic viruses between Transgene and BioInvent. To know more on BT-001, watch our video [here](#).

About BioInvent

BioInvent International AB (Nasdaq Stockholm: BINV) is a clinical-stage biotech company that discovers and develops novel and first-in-class immuno-modulatory antibodies for cancer therapy, with currently four drug candidates in five ongoing clinical programs in Phase 1/2 trials for the treatment of hematological cancer and solid tumors, respectively. The Company's validated, proprietary F.I.R.S.T™ technology platform identifies both targets and the antibodies that bind to them, generating many promising new drug candidates to fuel the Company's own clinical development pipeline and providing licensing and partnering opportunities.

The Company generates revenues from research collaborations and license agreements with multiple top-tier pharmaceutical companies, as well as from producing antibodies for third parties in the Company's fully integrated manufacturing unit. More information is available at www.bioinvent.com. Follow on Twitter: @BioInvent.

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About Transgene

Transgene (Euronext: TNG) is a biotechnology company focused on designing and developing targeted immunotherapies for the treatment of cancer. Transgene's programs utilize viral vector technology with the goal of indirectly or directly killing cancer cells.

The Company's clinical-stage programs consist of a portfolio of therapeutic vaccines and oncolytic viruses: TG4050, the first individualized therapeutic vaccine based on the *myvac*® platform, TG4001 for the treatment of HPV-positive cancers, as well as BT-001 and TG6050, two oncolytic viruses based on the Invir.IO® viral backbone.

With Transgene's *myvac*® platform, therapeutic vaccination enters the field of precision medicine with a novel immunotherapy that is fully tailored to each individual. The *myvac*® approach allows the generation of a virus-based immunotherapy that encodes patient-specific mutations identified and selected by Artificial Intelligence capabilities provided by its partner NEC.

With its proprietary platform Invir.IO®, Transgene is building on its viral vector engineering expertise to design a new generation of multifunctional oncolytic viruses. Additional information about Transgene is available at: www.transgene.fr Follow us on social media: X (formerly Twitter): [@TransgeneSA](#) – LinkedIn: [@Transgene](#)

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Transgene disclaimer

This press release contains forward-looking statements, which are subject to numerous risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated. The occurrence of any of these risks could have a significant negative outcome for the Company's activities, perspectives, financial situation, results, regulatory authorities' agreement with development phases, and development. The Company's ability to commercialize its products depends on but is not limited to the following factors: positive pre-clinical data may not be predictive of human clinical results, the success of clinical studies, the ability to obtain financing and/or partnerships for product

manufacturing, development and commercialization, and marketing approval by government regulatory authorities. For a discussion of risks and uncertainties which could cause the Company's actual results, financial condition, performance or achievements to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements, please refer to the Risk Factors ("Facteurs de Risque") section of the Universal Registration Document, available on the AMF website (<http://www.amf-france.org>) or on Transgene's website (www.transgene.fr). Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date on which they are made, and Transgene undertakes no obligation to update these forward-looking statements, even if new information becomes available in the future.

BioInvent disclaimer

The press release contains statements about the future, consisting of subjective assumptions and forecasts for future scenarios. Predictions for the future only apply as the date they are made and are, by their very nature, in the same way as research and development work in the biotech segment, associated with risk and uncertainty. With this in mind, the actual outcome may deviate significantly from the scenarios described in this press release.

Attachments

[BioInvent and Transgene's Oncolytic Virus BT-001 Shows Promising Antitumor Activity in Ongoing Phase 1/2a Trial in Solid Tumors that Failed Previous Treatments](#)