

First-In-Human Study of Novel Cancer Imaging Agent - Literated Market Research

The study would make use of MIL-38 monoclonal antibody as a new tool to enable better detection and targeted treatment of prostate and other cancers

BANGALORE, INDIA, November 3, 2015 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The first human study of a novel monoclonal antibody technology as an imaging agent to detect prostate, pancreatic and bladder cancers is to be carried by an Australian immunoncology company - Minomic International Ltd.



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In order to examine the use of Minomic's proprietary MIL-38 monoclonal antibody as a new tool to enable better detection and targeted treatment of prostate and other cancers, the company has signed a Heads of Agreement with Macquarie University Hospital (MUH) and Macquarie Medical Imaging (MMI). The MIL-38 monoclonal antibody is already a centerpiece of the company's novel prostate cancer diagnostic screening technology.

With the study expected to run during 2016, the first-in-human study will begin recruiting the first of 12 patients in the first quarter of 2016.

A chimeric version of Minomic's MIL-38 antibody conjugated with 67Gallium (MILGa) to image cancer metastases following ethics approval would be examined by a team of investigators led by Professors Howard Gurney and David Gillatt from MUH and Dr Kevin Ho-Shon of MMI under the study protocols.

Aspects of the technology with respect to safety, sensitivity and specificity of MILGa in these patients would be evaluated by the investigators.

In recent press reports, Professor David Gillatt has been quoted saying that the Macquarie University is committed to bringing cutting-edge medicine to patients and we see this trial as the first step to delivering proof-of-concept treatments to patients with life threatening diseases.

The company views the signing of the agreement as a key milestone for the company, as it prepares to further exploit the potential of its antibody technology.

Minomic Chief Executive Officer Dr Brad Walsh has quoted in recent reports saying: "We have been focused to date on commercializing our lead prostate cancer diagnostic technology known as MiCheck®, but have consistently acknowledged the potential for our antibody to be used for imaging and therapeutic purposes."

The results of the technology during pre-clinical animal studies have been very encouraging. The tests conducted so far have been able to ensure that a patient's own immune system does not recognize their own antibody as foreign through the process of formulating a chimeric version of the MIL-38 antibody. A protein found on cancer cells are the target of the antibody which the antibody would then seek out.

In order that the technology can be used to directly deliver the appropriate therapy to the tumor cell target for maximum impact, the clinical tests would attach a payload to the antibody which would either be an existing drug or radiotherapy. The company intends to undertake a therapeutic trial following successful targeting to tumor metastases in this study.

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