



PRESS RELEASE

**BIO ELPIDA, A GATEWAY OF 1 000 M²
BETWEEN THE WORLD OF RESEARCH
AND INDUSTRY**

Saint-Priest, on December 8, 2014 - Bio Elpida, supported by the city of Saint-Priest - represented by the Mayor, Gilles Gascon - and many representatives from the Lyon Métropole, inaugurated its new premises at the heart of the city's technology park on Thursday 4th December. It afforded the opportunity for its founders to restate the potential for great medical advances of tomorrow to be developed in the heart of laboratories like Bio Elpida.

The first French laboratory to have been approved by the ANSM¹ in only 6 months following inception in 2009, Bio Elpida now continues its mission from a 1,000 m² facility dedicated to the development of new innovative treatments – in brain cancer, pancreatic cancer and leukemia for example - based on cell therapy and immunological research.

Bio Elpida, a gateway to innovation

"Our role is that of a facilitator, a gateway between the world of research and the pharmaceutical industry. We start with *the concept* that has been provided to us by the medical scientists and we shape it until it becomes an effective medication; safe, reproducible and accessible to the majority of patients" explains Benoît Pinteur, co-founder and CEO of Bio Elpida, facing a crowded boardroom.

Representatives of LYONBIOPÔLE, of Saint-Priest, of the CCI of Lyon, Grand Lyon, and also the DIRECCTE² Rhône-Alpes joined the media at the official opening of Bio Elpida's new laboratory facilities.

Although only recently relocated to the new premises, Bio Elpida has been working on some projects for several years. "We are proud that for two long-term clients dealing with brain and pancreatic cancers, we have already produced clinical batches for phase II in Europe and the USA. We are preparing for production of a clinical batch for phase III in 2015. » Says Gilles Devillers, co-founder of Bio Elpida, in the accessible corridors of the laboratories.

Searching - innovating - achieving

The projects entrusted to Bio Elpida are not only in the field of cancer therapeutics, but also, cell therapy, which could allow regeneration of diseased and damaged organs, replacing traditional organ transplantation, and thus solving problems of waiting lists, tissue rejection, and other complications. As part of a European initiative called EuroNanomed, Bio Elpida collaborates with biotech organisations and centres of research from other countries such as Germany, Spain, and Austria, on a project for bone and joint regeneration in patients with rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis.

"Our starting point is HOPE³. The belief that we can contribute to a better world. Our investors, like patients, have placed their hope in our ability to search, innovate and of course achieve" comments Benoit Pinteur.

"And the Lyon Métropole is the ideal place for entrepreneurs. The Aderly, the Clara and the Grand Lyon provide us with tools envied by many clusters. In return, we are working hard to quickly become a key European player in the development of cell therapy medicinal products." Concluded Benoit Pinteur.

1. Cellular therapy and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) certifications obtained by the French health authorities (ANSM).

2 Regional direction of business, competition, consumption, labour and employment

3 Elpida in Greek means hope.

About Bio Elpida

Since 2009, Bio Elpida, founded by Benoît Pinteur and Gilles Devillers has been a leading biotechnology service provider specialising in the development and manufacture of innovative drug therapies, immunotherapies and cellular therapies.

The first French laboratory to obtain 'Pharmaceutical' and 'Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient' certifications for the preparation of cell based investigational medicinal products by the French health authorities (ANSM).

The expertise of Bio Elpida covers three sectors:

Cell therapy / cell culture / Immunology.

Its activities range from R & D feasibility to manufacture and release of pharmaceutical products for clinical development, via process optimisation, development, control and analytical methods validation...

From Hope (Elpida in Greek), the team has the following ambition for its partners:

SEARCHING - INNOVATING - ACHIEVING.

Bio Elpida

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