24 May 2023
EMBARGOED – MIDDAY

MEDIA RELEASE

Cyteph secures vital funding for brain cancer immunotherapy phase 1 clinical trial

QIMR Berghofer's biotechnology spin-out company, Cyteph, has secured $1.5m from the Australian Federal Government's Medical Research Future Fund – via a clinical CUREator grant – to support efforts to advance the treatment landscape for aggressive forms of brain cancer.

Brisbane Australia, 24 May 2023: Cyteph, a spin-out biotechnology company from QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, was last night awarded a $1.5m grant via the CUREator incubator.

This grant signals an official launch milestone for the Company, supporting its imminent plan to conduct a phase 1 clinical trial for its lead candidate CYT-101 in recurrent glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) patients. Under the guidance of QIMR Berghofer's Professor Rajiv Khanna, the goal is to develop allogeneic or 'off-the-shelf' T cell therapies and a dual-targeting CAR T platform to rapidly advance the treatment of solid tumours.

CYT-101 is an allogeneic cytomegalovirus (CMV)-specific T cell therapy developed by Professor Khanna's team. The novel immunotherapy uses the immune system and the power of virus-specific T cells to recognise and attack cancer cells. CMV-specific T cells are particularly effective at targeting and destroying virus-infected and malignant cells because they are primed in the body as killer T cells which rapidly migrate and penetrate deep into diseased tissues.

The program has been de-risked through two previous clinical trials using autologous CMV-specific T cell therapy in GBM patients, where it was found to be safe with preliminary efficacy signals. Autologous treatments use the patient's own immune cells which are harvested, manipulated, then injected back into the patient; a process which is costly, can take many weeks, and the immune cells can be dysfunctional. Allogeneic treatments, often termed 'off-the-shelf', use donor cells from healthy volunteers. Pivoting to allogeneic treatment offers many potential benefits over autologous, including a more robust and consistent product with longer duration and treatment without delay, which is crucial for treating fast-growing tumours such as GBM.

QIMR Berghofer Distinguished Scientist, Co-Director of Queensland Immunology Research Centre and Cyteph Founder, Professor Rajiv Khanna, commented: "Securing this grant is an important commercial milestone for Cyteph and a vital step in progressing the development of its lead technology, which has been nurtured at QIMR Berghofer for 15 years. For our medical research team, one of the most rewarding parts of the job is guiding work from the

lab, closer to the patient, and I am optimistic about how CYT-101 may improve the lives of people suffering from GBM."

Cyteph Chief Executive Officer, Dr Melissa Knight, shared her enthusiasm: "We are thrilled to receive the CUREator funding and are right now welcoming further engagement with the investor community to progress our broader pipeline into the clinic. We are resolutely focused on our near-term goal to test and prove the merits of this Australian technology and to address pressing, unmet needs in the treatment of cancer."

In addition to CYT-101, Cyteph plans to utilise the unique properties of allogenic CMV-specific T cells as a dual targeting, CAR T delivery platform 'Cyt-ATTAC' (Cytomegalovirus – Allogeneic Tumor TArgeting Car t) to treat solid tumours. The first CAR T asset in pre-clinical development using the platform, CYT-AT1, targets EphA3 positive solid tumours such as GBM, colorectal, prostate and lung cancer. Capital raise efforts are underway to support this promising pipeline of medical research.

For more information about this technology visit www.cyteph.bio. Investor enquiries may be directed to info@cyteph.bio.

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ABOUT CYTEPH

Cyteph is a biotechnology company in Brisbane Australia developing allogeneic T cell therapies and an allogeneic dual targeting CAR T platform for the treatment of solid tumours. The lead asset, CYT-101, is an allogeneic CMV-specific T cell therapy due to commence a phase 1 clinical trial in glioblastoma (GBM) patients in Q4 2023. The dual-targeting allogeneic CAR-T platform 'Cyt-ATTAC' (Cytomegalovirus - Allogeneic Tumor TArgeting Car t), leverages the unique properties of CMV specific T-cells to enhance safety, efficacy and persistence of CAR T therapy. The first asset in pre-clinical development using the platform is CYT-AT1, an allogeneic CMV EhpA3 CAR T cell therapy targeting EphA3, a novel antigen selectively expressed by solid tumours including GBM, sarcoma, medulloblastoma and breast, lung, prostate, bladder, colorectal and gastric cancers. The CAR T platform could also be coupled with other CAR and TCR targets.

CTP-101 and CYT-ATT1 are investigational products which have not received marketing authorisation or approval by any regulatory agency, including the US Food and Drug Administration, the European Medicines Agency, or the Australian Therapeutic Goods Agency. The investigational drug products being developed by Cyteph will undergo clinical studies to evaluate the safety and effectiveness in humans.

ABOUT CUREATOR

CUREator is a national biotechnology incubator run by Brandon BioCatalyst to support the development of Australian biomedical research and innovations.

CUREator provides grant funding programs targeting biomedical opportunities spanning from early-stage development through to clinical trials. Providing more than just funding, CUREator works closely with project teams to guide them through the early development phase, offering both scientific and commercial expertise and networks to support projects in meeting key commercial milestones. Funding is provided with clear milestone-driven tranches and help is provided to guide development of these assets and maximise their chance of success.

For more information about CUREator visit: https://brandonbiocatalyst.com/cureator/