Licensing Opportunity

UNIVERSITY OF GENEVA

442-A262
APRIL Antibodies: biomarkers for the prognosis of DLBCL patients

Invention
Prognosis of Diffuse Large B-cell lymphomas (DLBCL) relies on the International Prognostic Index calculated with parameters that are not intrinsic markers of the tumor. The current view in the field of lymphoma prognostics is that there is a clear need to develop new prognostic tools relying on the tumor's own biomarkers.

The group of Dr. Bertrand Huard at the University of Geneva in collaboration with Apotech Corp. has demonstrated that *in situ* dosage of APRIL, a member of the TNF superfamily, with a specific monoclonal antibody serves as an excellent biomarker to assess DLBCL aggressivity and for can be used for early-stage evaluation of patient risk. This clinical tool has thus far been validated in retrospective studies with two independent cohorts of DLBCL patients and a prospective study is ongoing.

Applications
-Prognostic tool for DLBCL.

Advantages
-Validated prognostic test ready to use in routine diagnosis.
-Identification of a potential new target for the treatment of DLBCL patients.

References
-Schwaller et al., Neutrophil derived APRIL concentrated in tumor lesions by proteoglycans correlates with human B-cell lymphoma aggressiveness.
-WO07039489A1- Antibodies against APRIL as biomarkers for the early prognosis of lymphoma patients

Apotech and the University of Geneva are seeking a partner to develop and market this prognostic tool.

For more information, please contact:
Alexandra Richardson
+41 (22) 379 7258
alexandra.richardson@unige.ch

Olivier Donzé
+41 (21) 654 7057
odonze@apotech.ch

Université de Genève
24, Rue Général-Dufour
1211 Geneva 4
Switzerland