

Press release

ISTITUTI DI ECCELLENZA NELLA RICERCA SUL CANCRO
DI MILANO FIRMANO UN'IMPORTANTE ALLEANZA CON
BIOVITAS CAPITAL PER IDENTIFICARE NUOVI
DIAGNOSTICI MOLECOLARI

Milano, 30 Giugno 2014 - BioVitas Capital Ltd, l'Istituto Europeo di Oncologia (IEO), l'Istituto FIRC di Oncologia Molecolare (IFOM) attraverso la loro società di trasferimento tecnologico, TTFactor srl, e l'Università degli Studi di Milano annunciano di aver siglato due importanti accordi di collaborazione per sviluppare dei marker molecolari altamente innovativi per la diagnosi del tumore del polmone e del seno, con la possibilità di estendere questa tecnologia anche ad altre indicazioni come il tumore ovarico. Si tratta di un accordo promettente nella lotta contro i tumori tra due Istituti leader nello sviluppo di cure personalizzate ed un necessario partner finanziario che agisce attraverso due società altamente innovative nel campo oncologico.

Il primo accordo è stato siglato con Gensignia Ltd, una startup di BioVitas Capital Ltd, e prevede un'ampia collaborazione sulla tecnologia dei microRNA che mira a sviluppare dei marcatori genetici per la diagnosi precoce del tumore al polmone, al seno, alle ovaie ma non solo. Il programma di ricerca nato in origine come progetto congiunto di IFOM, IEO e Università degli Studi di Milano, attualmente è in fase di validazione su un ampio campione di pazienti nello studio clinico denominato COSMOS II di IEO.

Il secondo accordo è stato siglato con Tiziana Life Sciences Plc, un'altra startup di BioVitas Capital Ltd che si è quotata sull'*Alternative Investment Market (AIM)* di Londra lo scorso Aprile, e mira a identificare un marcatore o meglio una firma genetica delle cellule staminali del tumore al seno, per profilare sempre meglio i pazienti e offrire terapie sempre di più personalizzate.

About TTFactor is the technology transfer company of the European Institute of Oncology and the FIRC Institute of Molecular Oncology with the mission of supporting researchers and clinicians in evaluating the commercial potential of their research, promoting relationships with industry to foster further potential industrial applications. Typical TTF activities include patent filing, licensing, sponsored research agreements and spin off creation. Additional information can be found at www.ttfactor.com

About European Institute of Oncology is a "Comprehensive Cancer Center" integrating clinical activity with research and training. It represents an innovative model for health service and advanced research in oncology at a global level. Aligned with the most advanced international oncology centers standards, the European

Institute of Oncology has developed a fully integrated model providing prevention, diagnosis, health education, training and research, a model achieved through a deep cross-talk between clinical scientific research and an innovative management, in a context of continuous attention to the quality of the service delivered to patients.

About IFOM - Founded in 1998 by FIRC, the Institute of Molecular Oncology (IFOM) is a cancer research institute focused on the study of cancer formation and development at molecular level, with a view to a rapid transfer of results from bench to bedside.

About University of Milan. The University of Milan is a research-intensive university, offering high quality teaching at all levels in a broad spectrum of fields. Over the years, it has succeeded in maintaining a skilful blend of tradition and innovation, adjusting to the requirements of a fast-growing society without putting aside its distinctive traits. The University of Milan is the top Italian university in most international rankings and is the only Italian university among the 21 prestigious institutions that belong to the League of European Research Universities (LERU).

About BioVitas Capital Ltd – BioVitas Capital is a privately held investment incubator firm which specialises in nurturing, financing and structuring early-stage biotechnology or pharmaceutical products, projects and companies. The management of BioVitas combines experience in the financing and development of drugs and diagnostics with extensive scientific, business and financial contacts in the US and Europe. The firm has an established and successful history of value creation through the alignment of European patented research and technology with resources and expertise from the United States. The Company has interests in all fields of human medicine with particular emphasis directed towards cancer and infectious diseases. BioVitas involves itself at the embryonic stage of company formation and has an excellent track record of transforming early-stage business into flourishing, listed companies.

For more information go to www.biovitas.com

About Gensignia Ltd – Gensignia Ltd is a London-based privately held microRNA company with its founding research team in Milan, Italy and a wholly owned San Diego based subsidiary, Gensignia Life Sciences, Inc. With its laboratory operations in San Diego, Gensignia is pursuing a unique “Dx/Rx” business model in oncology. Gensignia is developing proprietary molecular diagnostic blood tests designed to provide more accurate detection of cancer as well as developing complementary therapeutics. In 2015, Gensignia intends to introduce a lung cancer diagnostic test in the US.

For more information go to www.gensignia.com

About Tiziana Life Sciences Plc – Tiziana Life Sciences Plc is a leading UK biotechnology company whose mission is to discover and develop novel molecules that impact human disease in the area of oncology, with a particular focus on metastatic cancers.

For more information go to www.tizianalifesciences.com