

## **Phi Pharma Collaboration with HES-SO Valais-Wallis in Sion Awarded a Swiss CTI Innovation Grant**

**October 12, 2016**, Geneva, Switzerland. Phi Pharma SA, a Swiss biotherapeutics company developing peptide drug conjugates as targeted drugs in oncology, auto-immune disease and infectious disease, announced today the start of a research collaboration with HES-SO Valais-Wallis in Sion (Haute Ecole Spécialisée de Suisse occidentale Valais) and in parallel, the award of a CTI grant (Commission for Technology and Innovation) to support the generation of proof of concept for a Phi candidate peptide drug conjugate in an oncology indication.

The overall collaboration objective is to develop novel peptide drug conjugates that target a newly identified cancer marker which is overexpressed in multiple cancers, while the CTI award focuses on a specific cancer indication with significant unmet medical need.

The grant award will enable the Phi Pharma – HES-SO Valais-Wallis collaboration to demonstrate proof of efficacy and select the optimal Phi Pharma clinical candidate.

Phi Pharma COO Luc Otten said: “the collaboration with HES-SO Valais-Wallis provides Phi with the additional chemistry and biology expertise needed to accelerate the progress of our proprietary peptide conjugate platform through lead selection and the grant award from the CTI will ensure that adequate resources can be applied to reach this important milestone.”

Marc Mathieu, Professor of Chemistry of the HES-SO Valais-Wallis, added: “The strength in this industry-academic relationship originates in our capacity to provide broad scientific competencies along with the network and experience in problem solving. All efforts are now driven by the motivation to consolidate Phi’s IP portfolio.”

### **About Phi Pharma**

Phi Pharma SA is a private Swiss-based biopharmaceutical company. It specializes in the discovery and early development of peptide drug conjugates for improving the treatment of diseases with high unmet medical needs. The Phi Pharma technology is based on a powerful new class of peptide drug conjugates with specific cellular targeting and efficient intra-cellular delivery. The lead programs are in oncology and infectious diseases.

### **About the Institute of Life Technologies, HES-SO Valais-Wallis**

The Institute of Life technology conducts a large variety of research projects and industrial mandates. Its laboratories feature state of the art equipment in the fields of analytical chemistry, peptide chemistry, biotechnology, as well as in food technology, providing a solid infrastructure for investigations that cover its four strategic research axes: Protein & Peptide Technologies, Diagnostics systems, Biotechnology & Sustainable Chemistry and Food & Natural Products”.

# NEWS RELEASE



## About the CTI

The Swiss Commission for Technology and Innovation (CTI) is the Swiss Confederation innovation promotion agency supporting R&D projects, entrepreneurship and the development of start-up companies in Switzerland.

For more information about CTI: see [this link](#)



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