

MolMed: new and relevant data on the therapeutic potential of NGR-hTNF in brain lymphomas presented today at ASCO.

An independent study showed multiple complete or partial regression of lymphoma in patients treated with NGR-hTNF in combination with standard chemotherapy.

Milan, June 4th 2018 – MolMed S.p.A. (MLMD.MI), medical biotechnology company focusing on research, development, manufacturing, and clinical validation of Cell & Gene therapies to treat cancer and rare diseases, announces that new and relevant data on the proprietary therapeutic agent NGR-hTNF in brain lymphomas resulted from the independent study “INGRID”, presented today by Dr Andrés J. M. Ferreri, Head of the Lymphoma Unit of IRCCS San Raffaele Hospital in Milan, and principal investigator of the trial, during the session “Hematologic Malignancies-Lymphoma and Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia” at ASCO, the annual meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology held in Chicago.

The study, a phase II prospective trial, was designed by Dr Andrés J. M. Ferreri, in order to assess the activity of NGR-hTNF, in combination with standard chemotherapy (R-CHOP), in patients with primary central nervous system lymphoma, refractory or resistant to standard treatments.

Brain lymphoma is a malignant tumor associated with poor survival mostly due by the limited capability of chemotherapy agents to achieve efficient concentration in brain tissue. NGR-hTNF, thanks to its ability to increase the permeability of the blood vessels feeding the tumor mass, has shown to facilitate the permeabilization of the blood brain barrier, allowing the anticancer drugs to enter the tumor.

First results showed that NGR-hTNF used in combination with standard therapy was associated with fast and impressive tumor regression in seven of the first ten enrolled patients: response was complete in five of them. The experimental treatment was safe, without any case of severe adverse event or treatment discontinuation. With the use of advanced imaging techniques and SPECT¹ analysis, the authors demonstrated the increase of blood-brain barrier permeability unrevealing the biological effect of NGR-hTNF (images are available at the link of the Poster presented at ASCO <https://meetinglibrary.asco.org/record/162294/poster>² and at MolMed homepage <http://www.molmed.com/>).

Riccardo Palmisano, MolMed’ CEO, commented: “*First results of the study presented today at the prestigious ASCO conference confirm the antitumor activity of NGR-hTNF of increasing the permeability of blood vessels feeding the tumor mass and specifically highlight the high potential of this molecule in increasing the success of the standard chemotherapy in the treatment of brain lymphomas, in patients that are still without a treatment option. Such important outcomes reinforce our strategy of finding a potential partner to fully exploit this relevant therapeutic option*”.

¹ Single-photon emission computed tomography (SPECT) is a nuclear medicine tomographic imaging technique using gamma rays.

² Access submitted to registration at ASCO website.

About MolMed

MolMed S.p.A. is a biotechnology company focused on research, development, manufacturing and clinical validation of innovative anticancer therapies. MolMed's product portfolio includes proprietary anti-tumor therapies in clinical and preclinical development: Zalmoxis® (TK) is a cell therapy based on donor T cells genetically engineered to enable bone marrow transplants from partially compatible donors for patients with high-risk hematological malignancies, eliminating post-transplant immunosuppression prophylaxis and inducing a rapid immune reconstitution. Zalmoxis® received Orphan Drug Designation and is currently in Phase III in a high-risk population of acute leukemia patients, but has already obtained a Conditional Marketing Authorization by the European Commission in the second half of 2016 as well as reimbursement conditions in Italy at the end of 2017 and in Germany at the beginning of 2018. Still focusing on this cell & gene technology, the company is developing a therapy based on Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR), specifically the CAR-T CD44v6, an immune gene therapy project, currently in advanced preclinical development, potentially effective for hematological malignancies and several solid epithelial tumors. MolMed is also the first company in Europe to have obtained the GMP manufacturing authorization for cell & gene therapies for its proprietary products (Zalmoxis®) as well as for third parties and/or in partnership (Strimvelis, a GSK gene therapy for the ADA-SCID). With reference to GMP development and manufacturing activities for third parties, MolMed signed numerous partnership agreements with leading European and US companies. In the framework of innovative anticancer therapies, MolMed's pipeline also includes NGR-hTNF, a therapeutic agent for solid tumors investigated in a broad clinical program, involving more than 1,000 treated patients. MolMed, founded in 1996 as an academic spin-off of the San Raffaele Scientific Institute, is listed on the main market (MTA) of the Milan stock exchange managed by Borsa Italiana since March 2008. MolMed is headquartered and based in Milan, at the San Raffaele Biotechnology Department (DIBIT) and has an operating unit at OpenZone in Bresso.

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