



CellProtect Nordic Pharmaceuticals AB receives funding from Vinnova

CellProtect Nordic Pharmaceuticals AB has received a 1 MSEK grant from Vinnova, Sweden's Innovation Agency. The funds will be used to upscale the production of a novel drug candidate CellProtect, an advanced therapy medicinal product (ATMP), for the treatment of multiple myeloma. The project will be conducted in collaboration with Karolinska University Hospital.

The grant has been provided to CellProtect Nordic Pharmaceuticals AB within the program "Competence Centers; Support for SMEs 2018". Its aim is to stimulate active and sustainable participation of small and medium size enterprises facilitating growth of the Swedish biologics industry.

Moreover, CellProtect Nordic Pharmaceuticals AB and the Karolinska University Hospital, via the Karolinska Cell Therapy Center (KCC) and its production unit Vecura, are partners of the Vinnova Competence Centre for Advanced BioProduction by Continuous Processing (AdBIOPRO). This key competence centre, focusing on manufacturing of emerging potent therapeutic products, is coordinated by the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, and includes a number of industrial partners.

"We are very grateful for the grant for this important work. Upscaling of the production is an imperative step in order to initiate confirmatory clinical trials with CellProtect in patients with multiple myeloma which is a primary indication for our drug candidate" says Karin Mellström, CEO of CellProtect Nordic Pharmaceuticals AB.

About CellProtect

The drug candidate CellProtect is based on using patient's own natural killer (NK cells) which are expanded and activated *ex vivo* in a way that they can recognize and attack cancer cells, thus offering a unique treatment strategy with curative potential.

The research behind CellProtect has been performed at the Karolinska Institutet in close collaboration with the Karolinska University Hospital Huddinge.

About the company

CellProtect Nordic Pharmaceuticals AB develops ground-breaking cell therapies for the treatment of severe diseases. The main focus of the company is CellProtect for the treatment of multiple myeloma. CellProtect Nordic Pharmaceuticals AB has established and holds the intellectual property rights for GMP manufacturing of this NK cell-based drug candidate for treatment of multiple myeloma.

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