Institut Curie and Pierre Fabre initiate a novel partnership in immuno-oncology

Paris, Castres, October 17th 2017 - Institut Curie and the IRPF (Institut de Recherche Pierre Fabre) will collaborate on new therapeutic strategies to advance cancer treatment for patients. The objective of this novel partnership is to dissect the biology of novel therapeutically tractable targets and evaluate the impact of innovative pharmacological approaches leveraging the Institut Curie’s biological models.

“We will work to better understand the immunological responses to tumors, and to learn how to use the immune system to fight cancer. Research projects will range from analysis of the most fundamental aspects of intracellular transport in cells of the immune system to functional aspects of immune responses to tumors in animal models and to clinical immunotherapy in cancer patients” explains Sebastian Amigorena, director of the Institut Curie Center of Cancer immuno-oncology and director of the U932 Institut Curie / INSERM / UPMC research unit.

“Pierre Fabre’s know-how in oncology is based on more than 30 years of experience. This strategic partnership is in line with our commitment to deliver transformative therapies to patients afflicted with cancer. It will combine the accumulated knowledge in immuno-oncology gathered by oncologists and biologists at the Institut Curie with the capabilities of Pierre Fabre and the expertise of our researchers and product development teams. It is a great opportunity to strengthen our research capabilities in cancer immunotherapy and to ultimately open up promising prospects for the discovery of new cancer treatments” says Eric Chetaille Head of Pierre Fabre Oncology Innovation Unit.

Sebastian Amigorena and Claire Hirvoz teams work to better understand the tumor immune-related microenvironment, and to learn how to use the immune system to fight cancer. Their projects range from basic immunology in healthy individuals to more applied studies of immune response in the context of tumor using animal models or human biological samples from cancer patients.

“This new partnership in the field of immuno-oncology with one of the top French company investing in R&D illustrates the current dynamism of Tech Transfer at Institut Curie. Based on the expertise of the teams involved at Pierre Fabre and Institut Curie, the objective will be to develop new immunotherapies to bring innovative therapeutic solutions to the clinics” adds Amaury Martin, Head of the Institut Curie Technology Transfer and Industrial Partnerships Office and Director of the Institut Carnot Curie Cancer.

Under the terms of this agreement, Institut Curie and the Institut de Recherche Pierre Fabre will collaborate on new therapeutic strategies to improve cancer treatment for patients. Both parties will interact closely to dissect the biology of novel therapeutically actionable targets and evaluate the impact of novel pharmacological approaches leveraging the Institut Curie’s biological models.

Press contacts Pierre Fabre
Valérie Roucoules - 33 1 49 10 83 84 - valerie.roucoules@pierre-fabre.com
Press contacts Institut Curie
Catherine Goupillon - 01 56 24 55 23 service.presse@curie.fr
About Pierre Fabre
With a portfolio representing a continuum of activities spanning from prescription drugs and consumer healthcare products to dermo-cosmetics, Pierre Fabre is the 2nd largest dermo-cosmetics laboratory in the world, the 2nd largest private French pharmaceutical group and the market leader in France for products sold over the counter in pharmacies. Its portfolio includes several global brands and franchises among which Eau Thermale Avène - the worldwide dermo-cosmetic market leader - Klorane, Ducray, René Furterer, A-Derma, Galénic, Elancyl, Naturactive, Pierre Fabre Health Care, Pierre Fabre Oral Care, Pierre Fabre Dermatologie and Pierre Fabre Oncologie.

In 2016, Pierre Fabre generated 2,282 million euros in revenues, of which 60% came from its international business and 59% from its dermo-cosmetics division. Pierre Fabre, which has always been headquartered in the South-West of France, owns more than 13,000 employees worldwide, owns subsidiaries and offices in 47 countries and enjoys distribution agreements in over 130 countries. In 2016, Pierre Fabre dedicated ca. 195 million euros to its R&D efforts, split between oncology, central nervous system, consumer healthcare, dermatology and dermo-cosmetics. Pierre Fabre is 86%-owned by the Pierre Fabre Foundation, a government-recognized public-interest foundation, and secondarily by its own employees through an international employee stock ownership plan.

The independent French certification group AFNOR audited Pierre Fabre for its corporate social responsibility policy at the “exemplary” level, according to the ISO 26000 standard for CSR.
To find out more about Pierre Fabre, please go to www.pierre-fabre.com

About Institut Curie & Curie Cancer
The Institut Curie, a leading player in the fight against cancer, combines a leading French research center in oncology and a state-of-the-art hospital group that treat all types of cancer, including the rarest. Founded in 1909 by Marie Curie, the Institut Curie brings together more than 3,300 researchers, physicians and healthcare professionals around its three missions: care, research and teaching.

As a private foundation recognized for public utility, the Institut Curie is authorized to receive donations and bequests and can, thanks to the support of its donors, accelerate the discoveries and thus improve the treatment and the quality of life of the patients.
For more information, see www.curie.fr https://techtransfer.institut-curie.org/

Since 2011, the Institut Curie is certified “Institut Carnot Curie Cancer”. The Carnot label is a label of excellence granted to academic research structures with proven high quality and involvement in partnership research. Curie Cancer offers industrial partners the opportunity to set up research collaborations, benefiting from the expertise of the Institut teams, for the development of innovative therapeutic solutions against cancers from the therapeutic target to clinical validation.