



# Biophytis appoints a new Chief Medical Officer based in the USA

Paris (France), July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, 7.30 am - BIOPHYTIS (Euronext Growth Paris: ALBPS), a biotechnology company specializing in the development of drug candidates to fight age-related degenerative diseases, today announces the appointment of Doctor Samuel Agus as Chief Medical Officer in replacement of Susanna Del Signore. He will be a member of the Biophytis management team.

Doctor in Medicine (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem) and holder of two PhD in neurology and biostatistics from the Tel Aviv university, Samuel Agus has over 15 years of experience in the pharmaceutical industry. He has held leading positions and has a proven track record in clinical development within biotech and leading pharmaceutical companies such as Teva Pharmaceuticals Industries, Solvay Pharmaceuticals then Abbott Laboratories, Shire Pharmaceuticals and Lundbeck. Since April 2017 he has been Vice President of Hansa Medical AB. An American-Israeli citizen, Samuel Agus specializes in the field of neurology and disorders related to neurodegeneration. He is also a specialist in rare diseases such as Duchenne Myopathy, for which Biophytis is preparing a clinical development plan entitled MYODA and based on the drug candidate Sarconeos.

**Stanislas Veillet, CEO of BIOPHYTIS comments:** "We are delighted to welcome Samuel Agus within our team. His strong experience in the clinical development of drug candidates will enable us to achieve our goals. His mandate will be to strengthen our clinical teams in the United States, where we are already settled and where our clinical trials are currently in progress, more specifically for Sarcopenia."

Samuel Agus replaces Susanna Del Signore who has held the position so far and decided to focus on the development of Blue Companion, an e-health company she founded.

Samuel Agus will be based in Cambridge, Massachussetts (USA) where the company wants to develop its clinical teams in order to support the development and monitor its clinical trials in the United States. The SARA study program for Sarconeos in Sarcopenia is underway in the US: more than 6 centers have already opened for SARA-OBS and SARA-INT studies. In addition, Biophytis plans to extend the MACA study program for Macuneos in Agerelated Macular Degeneration (MAD) and the MYODA study program for Sarconeos in Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD). Finally, this strengthened presence will grant support to the regulatory development of products in the United States and prepare market access in this country.

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## **About SARA:**

The SARA program is a multicentric clinical program conducted in 4 countries (USA, France, Belgium, Italy) to assess the effective therapeutic dose of Sarconeos in a Phase 2b clinical study in 334 sarcopenic patients. The program began in 2016, by conducting a safety and pharmacokinetic study on 30 healthy elderly subjects: SARA-PK. The program includes an observational study: SARA-OBS, which began in 2017, for 6 months, conducted on more than 300 sarcopenic patients, in 11 clinical centers. SARA-OBS data will provide a better characterization of the Sarconeos treatment target population. After obtaining consent, patients who participated in the SARA-OBS study may be included in the SARA-INT Phase 2b study. The objective of SARA-INT is to evaluate the safety and efficacy of two doses of Sarconeos (175 mg bid and 350 mg bid) administered orally for 26 weeks against placebo in a population of men and women over the age of 65 with a risk of motor disability; and to assess the efficacy of the treatment, namely the improvement of the physical function and the reduction of the risk of motor incapacity.

## **About MACA:**

The MACA program is a multicentric clinical program conducted in several countries (USA, Europe) which aims to assess the effective therapeutic dose of Macuneos in order to slow disease progression in AMD patients in a Phase 2b clinical trial. Prior to the interventional phase 2b study: MACA-INT, two studies will be conducted simultaneously, which should begin in the second half of 2018:

- On one hand, a pharmacokinetic and safety study in healthy volunteers and elderly patients; intermediate phase AMD (MACA-PK);
- On the other hand, an observational study aimed at characterizing the target population, and prerecruiting patients (MACA-OBS), which will be conducted in Europe and the United States.

This clinical-regulatory protocol aims to (i) obtain clinical activity data as early as 2018, (ii) to measure the pharmacokinetics of Macuneos, before confirming the doses to be administered, (iii) to precisely characterize the population, before confirming the inclusion criteria of the patients tested.

# **About MYODA:**

MYODA is the name of drug candidate Sarconeos' new clinical development program in Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy or Duchenne myopathy (DMD). Sarconeos is a drug candidate that activates the MAS receptor, stimulates muscle anabolism and reduces the appearance of muscle fibrosis, with the potential to suspend the disease's progression, particularly to delay the loss of mobility. The clinical development program will include a phase I/II pharmacokinetic study (MYODA-PK), which is expected to begin in 2018, and a phase II/III study (MYODA-INT), which is expected to start in 2019.

## **About BIOPHYTIS**

Biophytis SA (www.biophytis.com), founded in 2006, develops drug candidates targeting diseases of aging. Using its technology and know-how, Biophytis has begun clinical development of innovative therapeutics to restore the muscular and visual functions in diseases with significant unmet medical needs. Specifically, the company is advancing two lead products into mid-stage clinical testing this year: Sarconeos (BIO101) to treat sarcopenic obesity and Macuneos (BIO201) to treat dry age-related macular degeneration (AMD).

The business model of BIOPHYTIS is to ensure the conduct of the project until clinical activity in the patient is proven, then to license the technologies in order to continue the development in partnership with a pharmaceutical laboratory.

Based on the Sorbonne Université campus, Biophytis collaborates with expert scientists from several Sorbonne Université institutes such as the Paris Seine Biology Institute, the Institute of Myology, and the Vision Institute.

BIOPHYTIS is listed on the Euronext Growth market of Euronext Paris (ALBPS; ISIN: FR0012816825).

For more information: http://www.biophytis.com

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## BIOPHYTIS is eligible for the SMEs scheme





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