

PRESS RELEASE

Neuroplast raises € 4 million for its stem cell-based technology to treat patients with Spinal Cord Injury

Neuroplast BV has raised € 4 million to perform a phase II/III clinical trial with the aim of obtaining conditional market approval for treatment of patients suffering from Spinal Cord Injury.

Neuroplast BV received equity funding from Dutch-based Brightlands Venture Partners and LIOF and from existing shareholder and informal investor Lumana Invest BV. "The financing and support of the investors will enable us to perform multicenter clinical trials in the Netherlands, Denmark, Germany and Spain and bring the product to market", says CEO Johannes de Munter. Neuroplast was founded in 2014 by physician Hans de Munter and neurologist Erik Wolters. The Neuroplast team has recently been expanded with Juliette van den Dolder, who was appointed as COO and management team member. Juliette brings a wealth of production, marketing and sales knowledge with over 20 years of academic and industrial expertise in biomaterials and stem cell technology.

Neuroplast, a company specialized in regenerative medicine, has the mission to increase the quality of life of patients suffering from neurodegenerative disorders such as Spinal Cord Injury (SCI). SCI is also known as paraplegia. By isolating, manufacturing and reinserting patients' own cells, very promising preclinical outcomes have resulted in an Orphan Drug Designation from European regulatory authorities, allowing a fast-track procedure for the clinical trials. These trials are expected to start in March 2020.

"Neuroplast combines breakthrough science with a solid management team. In a sizable market characterised by major unmet need, successful treatment of (accident caused) paralysed patients would make life so much easier for them and their family while lowering the burden and costs for the society", says Marcel Kloosterman – Director at Brightlands Venture Partners. Tys van Elk, Director at LIOF adds: "Neuroplast is on the verge of a disruptive medical breakthrough in personalized medicine. With our investment we are excited to be able to contribute to this innovation. We expect that Neuroplast will become the pioneer in developing a better treatment for acute spinal cord injuries". CEO Johannes de Munter adds "Neuroplast is becoming an ATMP player in the region and wants to contribute to our beautiful eco-system".

Yearly, 24.500 people in Europe and USA are diagnosed with Spinal Cord Injury, usually caused by an accident. The impact on patient's daily life is high and the financial burden for the community is substantial: for Europe and the U.S., medical cost associated with Spinal Cord Injury is over € 13 bn per year.

ABOUT NEUROPLAST

Neuroplast is a company based in Maastricht (the Netherlands) developing autologous stem cell therapies for patients suffering from neurodegenerative diseases such as spinal cord injury (SCI), amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and traumatic brain injury. www.neuroplast.com

ABOUT LUMANA INVEST

Lumana is an investment company founded by entrepreneurs. With an investment horizon for an indefinite period, Lumana can be called unique. In addition, the fund managers – responsible for entering into and supervising participations – are also founders and co-shareholders of Lumana. This further emphasizes Lumana's commitment.

ABOUT BRIGHTLANDS VENTURE PARTNERS

Brightlands Venture Partners (BVP) is an 'ecosystem investor', investing in companies benefiting from and contributing to the Brightlands campuses in the south of the Netherlands. Funds under management are Limburg Ventures, Chemelot Ventures and Brightlands Agrifood Fund. Together the funds have made approximately 40 investments. www.brightlandsventurepartners.com

ABOUT LIOF

LIOF supports innovative entrepreneurs in Limburg with advice, network and financing. Together with the entrepreneur, a team of professionals determines the optimum mix of instruments for each individual entrepreneur based on his needs. LIOF helps small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) with innovative ideas, business plans and financing requests, and aids entrepreneurs who want to establish themselves in Limburg. We also help entrepreneurs with cross-border cooperation and international trade. Our goal is to make Limburg Ltd., and therefore Limburg as a whole, economically stronger. www.liof.nl/en