Immunovia announces collaboration with Lund University Diabetes Centre for the early detection of pancreatic cancer in diabetes risk group

LUND, Sweden — Immunovia AB is delighted to announce a collaboration with the researchers at Lund University Diabetes Centre (LUDC) to validate the company’s biomarker signature in high risk group of newly-onset type 2 diabetics (NoD) patients over the age of 50. The risk of these patients to develop pancreatic cancer is over 8 times greater than that of the general population.

The collaboration is designed as a retrospective validation study, in which LUDC, a consortium of research groups at Lund University, will deliver blood samples from NoD patients who subsequently developed pancreatic cancer to be analysed by IMMray™ PanCan-d test with the main goal of detecting pancreatic cancer at the early stages when the tumor is still resectable.

“Pancreatic cancer has one of lowest survival rates of any major cancer type and a mortality exceeding breast cancer. All the research points to that the key to improve prognosis lies in early detection in the high risk groups such as newly-onset diabetics. As we are already in prospective validation of the test in the hereditary risk group (see press release for more info from Dec. 20, 2016) this retrospective study plays a crucial role for IMMray™ PanCan-d in detecting pancreatic cancer in newly onset diabetic patients. Working together with Lund University Diabetes Centre in this study, we aim to take yet another important step towards making early detection of pancreatic cancer accessible for clinicians and patients,” commented Mats Grahn, CEO, Immunovia

“Already back in 2015 we found an increased risk of both liver and pancreatic cancers in type 2 diabetic patients in a Swedish Cancer registry. We now look forward to taking our research further into endogenous and exogenous factors that contribute to these associations between diabetes and cancer through this collaboration with Immunovia,” said Prof. Leif Groop, LUDC.

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About Immunovia
Immunovia AB was founded in 2007 by investigators from the Department of Immunotechnology at Lund University and CREATE Health, the Center for Translational Cancer Research in Lund, Sweden. Immunovia’s strategy is to decipher the wealth of information in blood and translate it into clinically useful tools to diagnose complex diseases such as cancer, earlier and more accurately than previously possible. Immunovia’s core technology platform, IMMray™, is based on antibody biomarker microarray analysis. The company is now performing clinical validation studies for the commercialization of IMMray™ PanCan-d that could be the first blood based test for early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. In the beginning of 2016, the company started a program focused on autoimmune diseases diagnosis, prognosis and therapy monitoring. The first test from this program, IMMray™ SLE-d, is a biomarker signature derived for differential diagnosis of lupus, now undergoing evaluation and validation. (Source: www.immunovia.com)

This information is information that Immunovia AB is obliged to make public pursuant to the EU Market Abuse Regulation. The information was submitted for publication, through the agency of the contact person set out above, on September 7, 2017 at 15.30 CET.

Immunovia’s shares (IMMNOV) are listed on Nasdaq First North in Stockholm and Wildeco is the company’s Certified Adviser. For more information, please visit www.immunovia.com.

About Lund University Diabetes Centre (LUDC)
LUDC is a consortium of research groups at Lund University headed by Professor Leif Groop dedicated to unravelling the pathogenesis and treatment of diabetes mellitus. LUDC started July 1st 2006 when selected for funding by the Swedish Research Council (Vetenskapsrådet) in fierce national competition, as a part of the call for applications for Linnaeus grants. LUDC is active in several different areas of diabetes research. Their aim is to identify the genetic factors responsible for development of diabetes, how they interact with the environment and then to integrate this knowledge with identifying the pathophysiology in pancreatic islet cells and insulin target tissue. (http://www.ludc.med.lu.se)

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