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Elicera Therapeutics' Chief Scientific Officer Magnus Essand named Cancer Researcher of the Year 2026 by the Swedish Cancer Society (Cancerfonden)

Gothenburg, March 10, 2026 – Elicera Therapeutics AB (publ), a clinical stage cell and gene therapy company developing next generation cancer treatments based on oncolytic viruses and CAR T-cell therapies, armed with immune-activating properties via the company's commercially available iTANK platform, congratulates its Chief Scientific Officer, Professor Magnus Essand, who has been named Cancer Researcher of the Year 2026 by the Swedish Cancer Society (Cancerfonden). The award is given in recognition of his groundbreaking and world-unique research in immunotherapy, where, through advanced clinical studies, he is developing the next generation of cancer treatments.

Magnus Essand is a professor at Uppsala University and co-founder of Elicera Therapeutics. His translational research combines gene therapy, cell therapy, and immunotherapy—with a particular focus on CAR-T treatments. His research group in Uppsala was the first in Europe to conduct CAR-T treatment in 2014. In the ongoing Phase I/IIa clinical trial CARMA, using the company's iTANK-armed CAR T-cell therapy ELC-301, six out of eight evaluated patients have so far achieved complete metabolic response (CMR)—meaning disease-free status—one month after treatment. Of the six patients with confirmed CMR at month one, four had sustained CMR at their most recent recorded follow-up. The best responses have so far been confirmed to last up to at least 12 months.

The Swedish Cancer Society (Cancerfonden) motivates the award as follows:

“Professor Magnus Essand is named Cancer Researcher of the Year with the following motivation: For world-unique research in immunotherapy against cancer. With sharp molecular engineering, he has created innovative cell therapies that have made the full journey from the laboratory to patients, with results that save lives.”

Malin Sund, professor and chair of Cancerfonden's research committee, says:

“Magnus Essand is a pioneer in immunotherapy in Europe. His research has already led to results that have changed the lives of patients and holds the potential to cure significantly more people in the future. This is research that we believe will make a very large and real difference for cancer patients.”

Magnus Essand comments:

“Immunotherapy has seen a major breakthrough over the past ten years, but we are still only at the beginning. Our goal is to develop treatments that are more precise and can cure more patients. This is the most fun and interesting thing I know—it's both a job and a hobby.”

Elicera Therapeutics CEO Jamal El-Mosleh says:

“We are incredibly proud of Magnus Essand's achievement and that his groundbreaking work is now being recognized with this prestigious award. His research lies at the heart of Elicera's mission to develop the next generation of immunotherapies using our iTANK platform. This prize underscores the high quality and potential in our pipeline and strengthens our position

in cell and gene therapy against cancer.”

The award will be presented on March 10, 2026, in connection with Cancerfonden’s 75th anniversary.

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About the CARMA Study

CARMA is a phase I/IIa clinical study evaluating the safety and efficacy of the CAR T-cell therapy ELC-301 in the treatment of patients with B-cell lymphoma. The study is divided into a dose-escalation phase (phase I) and a dose-expansion phase (phase IIa). Phase I primarily aims to establish the optimal dose and safety profile in up to 12 patients, while phase IIa will further evaluate the efficacy of the maximum tolerated dose in an additional six patients. Phase I is planned to include three cohorts (dosing groups), with three patients in the first and second cohorts, and six patients in the third cohort, who are expected to receive the maximum tolerated dose. The CARMA study is being conducted at Uppsala University Hospital and Karolinska University Hospital in Huddinge.

About ELC-301

ELC-301 is a fourth-generation CAR T-cell therapy targeting the CD20 antigen, armed with the company’s iTANK platform to activate a broader and more comprehensive parallel immune response against cancer. CAR T-cells are a form of cell therapy created by genetically modifying a patient’s T-cells to express a synthetic receptor (chimeric antigen receptor, CAR). This receptor is specifically designed to target a single tumor antigen—a molecule visible on the surface of cancer cells—and enables the T-cells to locate, bind to, and destroy the cancer cells.

About the iTANK-platform

The iTANK technology platform has been developed for arming and enhancing CAR T-cells to meet two of the major challenges CAR T-cell therapies face in the treatment of solid tumors: a very diverse set of tumor antigen targets and a very hostile tumor microenvironment. The technology is used to incorporate a transgene into CAR T-cells encoding a neutrophil activating bacterial protein (NAP). NAP secreted from the CAR(NAP) T-cells has been shown to be able to enhance the function of CAR T-cells and importantly activating a parallel bystander immune response against the cancer via CD8+ killer T-cells. This is expected to lead to a broad attack against most antigen targets on cancer cells. The iTANK platform is used to enhance the company’s own CAR T-cells but can also be universally applied to other CAR T-cell therapies under development. Proof-of-concept data was published in Nature Biomedical Engineering in April 2022. The publication, titled “CAR T cells expressing a bacterial virulence factor triggers potent bystander antitumor responses in solid cancers” (DOI number: 10.1038/s41551-022-00875-5) can be found here:

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41551-022-00875-5>. More information about iTANK platform is available here: <https://www.elicera.com/technology>

About Elicera Therapeutics AB

Elicera Therapeutics AB (publ) has developed the patented gene technology platform iTANK that enables the arming of new and existing CAR T-cell therapies targeting aggressive and relapsing cancer forms. Elicera Therapeutics thereby addresses a well-defined and vast market. The company’s CAR T-cell therapies have shown a potent effect toward solid tumors which are recognized as particularly difficult to treat and constitute the majority of cancer cases. The company addresses a global multibillion market in cell therapy through its offering of non-exclusive licensing of the iTANK-platform to companies in the pharmaceutical industry. Elicera Therapeutics has four

internal development projects in immune therapy that separately have the potential to generate substantial value through exclusive out-licensing agreements. The company's share is traded on Nasdaq First North Growth Market. For additional information, visit www.elicera.com.