



Fondation Recherche Cancer

PRESS RELEASE

The ISREC Foundation and Two Private Foundations Based in Lausanne Finance a Pioneering Clinical Trial for Leukemia at the CHUV

In an innovative collaborative approach, the ISREC Foundation is managing the funding of a clinical immunotherapy trial to be conducted at the CHUV. This project, which aims to develop a treatment for children and adults with acute leukemia, is funded through 2.8 million CHF in donations. Thanks to this collaboration, two private foundations can join forces to support translational cancer research and ensure professional scientific monitoring.

Lausanne, July 4, 2023. The ISREC Foundation announces the payment, on July 1, 2023, of the first of five annual instalments of a donation amounting to 2.8 million CHF, intended to fully fund the FIAMMA¹ research project, conducted at the CHUV. The aim of this pioneering project is to develop a novel cellular immunotherapy for children and adults with acute myeloid leukemia (AML), in relapse after standard treatment.

This donation is the result of an unprecedented collaboration between three foundations that have joined forces and pooled their expertise for the benefit of cancer research. The Jacqueline de Cérenville Foundation and the Jan Barton Mladota Foundation, both based in Lausanne, have decided to contribute 1.25 million CHF each to the research project and to entrust the ISREC Foundation with the management of the enterprise, in order to ensure its scientific validity and proper governance. The ISREC Foundation itself is supplementing the financing of the project with a 300'000 CHF donation.

This important new contribution to translational cancer research (combining basic research and clinical implementation) is fully in line with the ISREC Foundation's missions, which are to manage private donations, to select the most relevant projects, and to monitor the implementation of the projects and their proper governance. Thanks to its Scientific Board, which includes leading figures in the fields of research and medicine such as its president, Prof. Michael Hall, and its scientific director, Prof. Susan Gasser, the ISREC Foundation can guarantee donor foundations and all individual donors that the funds are strictly used as specified and that the projects in which they are involved are of the highest quality.

The FIAMMA project is conducted in close collaboration by PD Dr. Francesco Ceppi, senior physician in the pediatric hemato-oncology unit at the CHUV, and Prof. Caroline Arber, senior physician in the oncology department UNIL CHUV (immuno-oncology and hematology wards). The study can rely on a platform globally renowned in the field of cancer research, which has already conducted several promising clinical trials on novel immunotherapies for the treatment of various types of cancer.

The FIAMMA project stands in keeping with the translational research vision advocated by the ISREC Foundation, whose major investment of 80 million CHF in the AGORA building, inaugurated in 2018, brought together teams from the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois (CHUV), the University of Lausanne (UNIL), the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research (LICR), the Geneva University Hospitals (HUG) and the University of Geneva (UNIGE) to form the Swiss Cancer Center Léman (SCCL).

Pierre-Marie Glauser, president of the Foundation Council: *"We are very pleased to be able to persist in our mission to support translational cancer research, and to do so in close collaboration with generous foundations willing to join forces to advance our noble cause. We must persevere in our efforts and maintain an outstanding level in cancer research by pooling all available expertise. Given the challenges related to demographic change, advances in terms of new therapies are a must."*

¹Link to the project description for more details on the FIAMMA study: [FIAMMA_E.pdf \(isrec.ch\)](#)

The ISREC Foundation

Founded in 1964 in Lausanne at the instigation of Prof. Henri Isliker under the name Swiss Institute for Experimental Cancer Research, the ISREC Foundation is a private charitable foundation under the supervision of the Swiss Confederation, exempt from inheritance and gift taxes. Its purpose is to select and support cancer research projects, in particular those promoting knowledge transfer and collaborations between basic and clinical research, as well as projects aimed at supporting young scientists and academics in these fields. Its activities are focused around three main objectives: funding translational oncology research projects; creating and operating an infrastructure that promotes research (i.e., the AGORA Center in Lausanne); and training the next generation of scientists and clinicians in Switzerland. The ISREC Foundation, headed by Pierre-Marie Glauser, has a Foundation Council and a Scientific Board consisting of renowned scientists in the fields of medical and scientific research.

The Jan Baron Mladota Foundation

Established by the late Jan Baron Mladota and his wife Mariette Mladota in 2000, the Foundation is based in Lausanne and is headed by Jean-Philippe Rochat. Its purpose is to promote and support any humanitarian, cultural or scientific activities it deems useful, inter alia in the field of health, in particular the fight against cancer, in the field of education, in particular by granting scholarships, and in the field of child welfare.

The Jacqueline de Cérenville Foundation

This foundation was established in Lausanne in 2011 by the late Jacqueline de Cérenville and is headed by Pierre Henchoz. Its purpose is to disinterestedly devote itself to charity, education, training, health, teaching and any other undertaking of public utility, in particular by regularly granting subsidies to various humanitarian organizations and institutions in Switzerland (excluding all politically active organizations).

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