



IMAGINT: HER Imaging and Molecular Interaction Mapping in Breast Cancer



imagint

Topic

HEALTH.2010.1.2-1: Tools for the identification and the detection of biomarkers in clinical samples and patients.

Funding Scheme

Collaborative Project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)

Project coordinator

University College London, UK

Project Duration

May 2011- April 2015

IMAGINT aims to develop a range of new tools for imaging the human epidermal growth factor receptor (HER) family of tyrosine kinase cell surface receptors and their interactions in breast cancer.

IMAGINT's main objective is to develop tools for imaging and characterizing protein/protein and protein/RNA interactions in Cancer using Designed Ankyrin Repeat Proteins (DARPin). DARPins are small, ultra-highly stable, antibody-like proteins that bind specific targets with high affinity in monovalent form and are readily engineered for site-specific chemical modification.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON	UK (UNI)
UNIVERSITAET ZUERICH	CH (UNI)
KING'S COLLEGE LONDON	UK (UNI)
TOPOSNOMOS LTD	DE (SME)
MAX PLANCK GESELLSCHAFT ZUR FOERDERUNG DER WISSENSCHAFTEN E.V.	DE (R&D)
UPPSALA UNIVERSITET	SE (UNI)
INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES IN BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS S.L. (INNOPROT)	ES (SME)
FIRALIS S.A.S	FR (SME)
NOVAMEN S.A.S	FR (SME)

INNOPROT was founded in 2008 and today is one of the main Spanish providers of cell-based assays for drug discovery, providing screening services, customized assay development, High throughput screening (HTS), High content screening (HCS) and Hit-to-Lead optimization services. Innoprot offers a broad range of stable cell lines (both constitutive or inducible) and primary cells (both human or rat) fully validated for their use in HTS and HCS.

Innoprot
Speeding up drug discovery



i interview

Isbaal Ramos.

Project Manager, Innoprot SL

What elements contributed most to the success of your proposal?

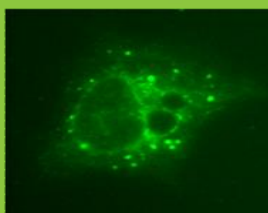
"The use and implementation of cutting edge technologies and the development of promising alternatives to existing ones have been in our opinion, key features in the success of this proposal. Moreover, these new technologies are very flexible and could be used over a wide range of applications. This characteristic is very valuable and for sure was very appreciated by the evaluators.

On the other hand, strong consortium with a very solid background in several fields is another factor that would increase the chances of having a positive review."

Please provide your impressions and your feelings about the collaborative activity with Academia/SME during the life of the project.

"For a SME as we are, it's very valuable to work with academia partners that have access to basic science. The point of view of the academia based in knowledge and not so much in production, adds flexibility and allows overcoming the problems that could arise during the implementation phase more easily.

Moreover the expertise of other industrial partners is very important as well, in order to complement our own expertise. This way is more probable to achieve the desired goals."



What has been the greatest success of the project (so far)?

"INNOPROT has carried out the isolation of RISC complexes and now is performing analysis in order to identify new targets and biomarkers for HER2 related cancer treatment. These new targets will be identified from both protein and microRNA samples and will allow to develop new strategies in the fight against several types of Cancer."

How did the project "Fit for Health" help you?

"Fit for Health through our NCP has helped us assisting us in the different phases of the proposal preparation. Moreover, the partnering events organized by Fit for Health are of great interest because expand our visibility increasing the business opportunities allowing connections with potential partners and customers."