

PRESS RELEASE

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Willex and LICR Report Results from Completed Phase I Trial of cG250 in Renal Cancer Patients

Willex and the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research (LICR) presented results from a Phase I trial of cG250 in renal cancer patients at the 37th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Clinical Oncology (ASCO) in San Francisco, May 12-15.

G250 is a monoclonal antibody that recognizes an antigen predominantly expressed on renal cancer cells. In collaboration with LICR, Willex develops a chimeric version of the antibody (WX-G250) for the treatment of renal cell carcinoma (RCC).

At the ASCO meeting, Willex and LICR presented data from a completed Phase I dose escalation study of unconjugated WX-G250 in 12 RCC patients. The trial was conducted by investigators at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, USA and the Austin and Repatriation Medical Centre, Melbourne, Australia. It showed WX-G250 to be safe and well tolerated. Patients received repeated weekly doses of up to 50 mg/m² for more than 6 weeks. At the end of the first six-week cycle, eight patients had stable disease and one had a complete response of a single lung metastasis.

Dr Stefan Ullrich, Willex's Vice President of Clinical R&D, commented, "These results are very encouraging and allow us to move rapidly into the next phase of development. WX-G250 is currently being tested in a Phase II trial in five European sites. ¹³¹I radiolabeled antibody (WX-G250RIT), aimed at delivering radiation directly to renal tumors, is also undergoing Phase II trials. In addition, we have now started a three-center Phase I/II trial to study the effect of WX-G250 in combination with low doses of IL-2 in metastatic RCC patients".

Willex is a biopharmaceutical company dedicated to the development and commercialization of novel cancer therapies. The Company was founded by clinical oncologists who identified prognostic markers that could recognize cancer patient sub-populations at high risk of developing metastatic disease. Willex has novel cancer therapies in clinical trials that are tailored to the medical needs of these patients. The mission of the Company is to improve cancer treatment and enhance patient quality of life.

The Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research is an international not-for-profit organization that originates and conducts long-range research programs directed to the ultimate goal of eradicating cancer. Over 750 scientists, clinicians, and support staff in 14 countries focus on multiple aspects of basic and clinical cancer research, including cancer genetics and genomics, tumor immunology, and cell growth and differentiation. The LICR Antibody Targeting Program seeks to establish the scientific basis for selective tumor targeting with monoclonal antibodies and to base the development of therapeutic strategies on this foundation.