



Bionature E.A. Ltd

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Profile

Bionature E.A. Ltd was founded in 2003 as a pre-clinical biotechnology development company that develops new technologies that will enable the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of diseases that contribute to human aging. The Company's founders are Professors Elias Castanas and Achilleas Gravanis, both of the University of Crete Medical School in Greece. Bionature's stakeholders also include the University of Crete and the private equity group of Emergo. The Faculty of Medicine of the University of Crete was established in 1984 and is presently ranked among the best medical schools in Europe. Over the years, the School has achieved international recognition, as evidenced by the participation of several of its staff members on the executive boards, administrative committees and councils of European or global scientific associations and professional organizations. Emergo is a privately owned international private equity investment group, with decades of experience and a substantial investment portfolio. Emergo has an investment philosophy, which goes far beyond the expectation of a reasonable return on capital, providing more than just financing to its partner companies. It provides financial and managerial advice and support on an ongoing basis. Emergo's vision spans decades, driving for long term, sustained success with its companies, while leveraging its considerable international network to advance the breadth, scope and opportunity for its holdings, creating synergies across industry sectors and geographic regions.

The Company's focus is on areas of therapeutic interest and particularly on the identification, pre-clinical development and eventual out-licensing of novel technologies in the following areas:

- Neuroprotective activities of natural and synthetic compounds
- Oncology, anti-tumor therapy
- Chronic inflammatory conditions
- Clinical diagnostics, including pharmacogenomics

Future Objectives

The Company's strategic objective is to in-license, protect and commercially exploit intellectual property rights that arise from the research activities of its scientists and their associates. Bionature

aims to continually generate novel therapeutic agents of large clinical importance and value. In effect, Bionature operates as a small early stage technology incubator, developing and nurturing R&D projects with significant market potential. Specifically, the Company's objectives are:

- To In-License promising research and technology at either discovery or early preclinical stage through academic and institutional partnerships
- To perform pre-clinical In-Vitro and In-Vivo development testing/trials to validate the promise of novel in-licensed research and technologies
- To Out-License pre-clinically developed technology to strategic partners that will complete the clinical development process, regulatory filing and marketing activities of these technologies.
- To support strategic partners through the clinical development of technologies by performing additional pre-clinical testing/screening as required
- To support strategic partnerships by generating/developing follow-on applications for partnered technologies.

Bionature's current portfolio consists of 8 projects at various stages of clinical or pre clinical development. Bionature adds value to the in-licensed projects by financing their development from an early preclinical to a late preclinical stage before partnering with a strategic ally that will take over the clinical development process, regulatory filing and marketing activities of the final product. Over the last 5 years Bionature has partnered 4 technologies. One of these technologies is now available as a commercial diagnostic kit by a major pharmaceutical Company in Greece.

Target Partners & Collaborations

The company is seeking

1) Worldwide licensees for the following pre-clinically developed technologies (detailed technology profiles are available)

:

- Novel CRH pathway for the treatment of inflammatory diseases
- Novel technology targeted at potentiating the function of Erythropoietin (EPO)
- Novel spirosteroid molecules with neuroprotective and neuroregenerative molecules

2) Biotech companies in the company's interest area for in-licensing research and technology at discovery or early preclinical stage

Company Representative *Constantinos Neophytou, Ph.D*

Dr. Neophytou is the Managing Director and Portfolio Manager at Emergo Group. He received his B.A. and M.A. in Natural Sciences at Cambridge University and his Ph.D. in Neuroscience at University College London in England. He was a post-doctoral fellow at Harvard Medical School as a Wellcome Trust Prize Research Scholar where he worked with Nobel laureate Professor Linda Buck on the study of the molecular biology of taste receptors. Since 1999, he worked for 2 years as the General Manager of the largest financial brokerage house in Cyprus prior to working as a consultant for the venture capital firms Bank of Cyprus Ventures and Emergo. He also served as the Vice President for International Operations for the nutraceuticals company, Yasoo Health Inc., headquartered in Tennessee. Dr Neophytou is on the Board of a number of emerging Companies, in the biomedical sector and in the information and communication technology sectors. He has been serving as an independent expert research grant evaluator for the European Commission since 2002.