

A NOVEL INDICATION FOR CRH ANTAGONISTS: TREATMENT OF CHRONIC INFLAMMATORY DISEASES

LICENSING OPPORTUNITY

OFFERING HIGHLIGHTS:

- Novel technology currently targeted at treatment of a wide range of inflammatory disorders.
- Existing safety data ensures low risk and/or expedited process through phase I trials.
- Patent protected through issued and pending patent applications.

- Treatment of Inflammatory diseases through Corticotropin-Releasing Hormone (CRH) and Urocortin (UCN) systems.
- Regulation of monocyte and macrophage cell activity pathways.
- Synthetic CRH-R1 antagonists inhibit the activity of macrophages.
- Product has excellent safety profile.

- Seeking world wide licensee of novel CRH pathway for the treatment of inflammatory diseases

COMPANY PROFILE:

Bionature EA, Ltd., currently headquartered in Nicosia, Cyprus, is a private biomedical research and pre-clinical development company founded in 2003. Bionature seeks to discover new technologies that will enable the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases that contribute to chronic diseases and human aging. The company's focuses on the following main areas:

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

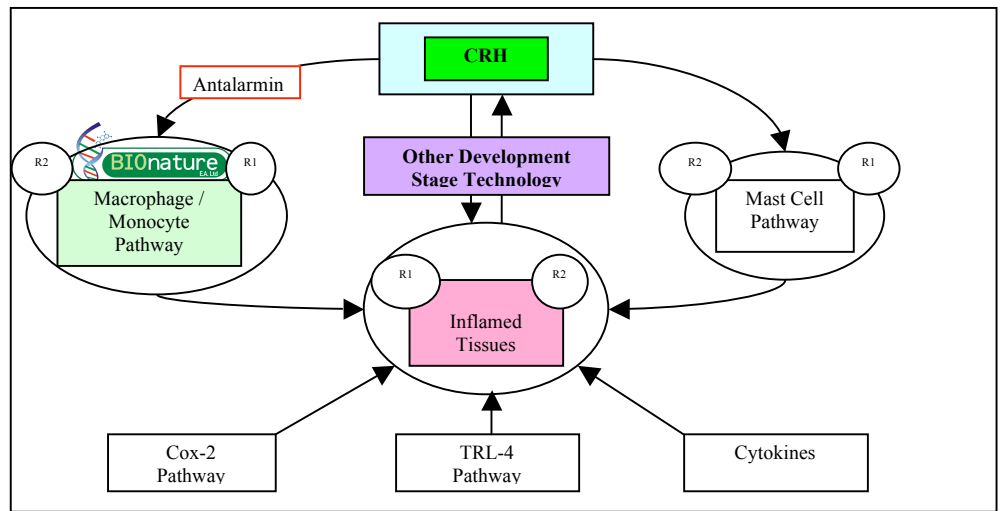
Bionature seeks to achieve these goals by in-licensing discovery stage technology, building the intellectual property, performing pre-clinical development, and ultimately out-licensing the technology at the late pre-clinical / early clinical development stages. Bionature leverages its partnerships with academic centers to create synergy in applied and clinical research in the biomedical sciences, and in the development, testing and marketing of innovative pharmaceuticals and other biomedical products. Bionature currently has a strategic partnership with Emergo, an international private equity company, as well as a research partnership with the University of Crete Medical School. Bionature has successfully out-licensed several projects to European biotechnology firms.

TECHNOLOGY OVERVIEW:

Bionature's CRH technology relates to the use of the Corticotropin-Releasing Hormone (CRH)—Urocortin (UCN) System for the treatment of inflammatory diseases. The CRH technology targets the inflammatory process by regulating the monocyte & macrophage cell activity pathways. Macrophages are among the primary initiator cells during an inflammatory response and they are the main source of a series of pro-inflammatory cytokines. These inflammatory cells are activated by the binding of CRH to the CRH-R1 receptor sites. By directly blocking the cell activity of macrophages, synthetic CRH-R1 antagonists present a novel approach to the treatment of inflammatory disorders. Synthetic CRH-R1 antagonists and/or CRH-R2 agonists (UCN) have the potential to be as efficacious as Cox-2 inhibitors, but without the toxicity of a Cox-2 inhibitor. The CRH technology could ultimately be utilized as an alternative to Cox-2 inhibitors, providing a novel replacement product for the controversial Cox-2 inhibitor products. Another advantage to the currently pre-clinical stage CRH technology offered by Bionature is the large body of safety data that currently exists around the use of both Corticotropin-Releasing Hormone and the CRH antagonists. This data suggests that an established safety profile already exists for this technology, which increases the probability of successfully advancing through to Phase II trials.

PARTNERSHIP/LICENSING OPPORTUNITIES:

Bionature EA, Ltd. is currently seeking world wide Strategic Partners to continue development of its CRH technology for the treatment of chronic inflammatory disorders, by regulating the monocyte & macrophage cell activity pathways. The opportunity also exists for the licensing of the CRH technology, which is currently ready for IND application in the United States.



- Anti-inflammatory market is projected to grow to \$50 billion by 2010.
- Many patients continue to be refractory to current treatments.
- Wide scope of anti-inflammatory market provides extensive opportunity for novel medications
- CRH Technology represents a potential alternative to Cox-2 inhibitors.

- Experienced scientists in the fields of chemistry, endocrinology, and pharmacology
- Over 250 scientific papers have been published by the Bionature team of scientists.

MARKET OVERVIEW:

The market for anti-inflammatory drugs in 2005 was approximately \$31 bln and is projected to swell to around \$50 bln by 2010. The market in 2005 was dominated by treatments for asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, psoriasis, and inflammatory bowel disease. The fastest growing markets in the next five years will be for the treatment of psoriasis and rheumatoid arthritis, both with average annual growth rates of over 13 percent (BCC Research 2006). The anti-inflammatory market was dramatically altered in 2004 by the withdrawal of Merck's blockbuster anti-inflammatory product, Vioxx®, and the subsequent increased scrutiny by the FDA of the entire class of Cox-2 inhibitors. Although competition in the treatment of inflammatory disorders is high, there is still a demand for novel treatments to be developed and pharmaceutical and biotech companies are looking to develop safer and more effective alternatives to the Cox-2 inhibitor class of drugs. Bionature's CRH system represents a novel approach to the treatment of neurogenic inflammatory disorders.

MANAGEMENT TEAM:

Achilleas Gravanis, PhD

Dr. Gravanis is Professor of Pharmacology at the University of Crete Medical School. His special research interests include modulation of the proliferation, apoptosis, and differentiation of neural and neuroendocrine normal and tumoral cells. In addition, his interests lie in neurogenerative diseases and neuroprotective agents. Dr. Gravanis has published more than 100 papers in MedLine journals.

Elias Castanas, MD, PhD, DSc

Dr. Castanas is Professor of Experimental Endocrinology at the University of Crete Medical School. His special research interests include modulation of the proliferation of hormone sensitive tumors by biologically active substances. Dr. Castanas has published more than 100 papers in MedLine journals.

Constantinos Neophytou, PhD

Dr. Neophytou is a portfolio manager with the private equity group, Emergo and he serves as the Managing Director of Bionature. He received his B.A. and M.A. in Natural Sciences at Cambridge University and his Ph.D. in Neuroscience at University College London. He was a post-doctoral fellow at Harvard Medical School as a Wellcome Trust Prize Research Scholar. He has close to 10 years experience in private equity transactions in the biomedical sector.