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WntResearch – ASCO-report 2015

This year's annual meeting of American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) was held in Chicago in the beginning of June. WntResearch was represented by CEO Nils Brünner, CSO Tommy Andersson, IR and clinical operation responsible Ulla Buhl and our prior Chairman of the Board, Peter Buhl. The ASCO meeting is the world's largest oncology meeting where the latest advancements in medical cancer treatment are presented and discussed. ASCO is also a venue for meetings between drug companies, biotech companies and academic researchers.

For the scientific part, WntResearch specifically followed presentations and discussions on alternative and new paradigms in early drug development with an aim to further optimize our future clinical trials. We were also listening to presentations on biomarkers including circulating cancer cell determinations and cancer stem cell assays in order to be able to have the very best and relevant biomarker assays during the upcoming phase Ib and phase II studies with Foxy-5. WntResearch also took part in meetings with different service providers who offered various preclinical assays that could be relevant for the company.

Finally, WntResearch had follow-up meetings with some of the drug companies that we met at Bio-Europe in Paris earlier this year. Interestingly to us, a number of the larger Pharma Companies are currently focusing on the Wnt pathways, however they all are in possession of Wnt-antagonists while Foxy-5 is an agonist. Also their drugs are mainly targeting other frizzle receptors than Foxy-5. Many of the Companies are in phase Ib clinical studies planning for phase II. Most planned studies are in combination with standard chemotherapy. No preclinical data on Wnt5a were presented at the meeting.

In conclusion, the ASCO meeting was very interesting for us and we learned several new things that we can use in the future development of Foxy-5 and Box-5. Our meetings with other companies were positive and discussions will continue.

Nils Brünner