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Press release

Invectys awarded « 2019 best project – start-up category » by the MATWIN international Board

Invectys exploits two complementary technological platforms: telomerase-based vaccines and HLA-G checkpoint inhibitors and CAR T cells. MATWIN's Board selected Invectys on the basis of its HLA-G platform.

HLA-G is *the* immune checkpoint of pregnancy, and is used by the fetus to shut down the mother's immune responses to antigens from the father which would otherwise destroy it. Along the long road to cancer, a large proportion of tumor cells will neo-express HLA-G to escape the wrath of the immune system. Given the power of HLA-G it is not surprising that more than 50% of tumors are HLA-G positive. Outside of pregnancy and cancer the HLA-G molecule is almost absent in other body tissues making it one of the most tumor specific antigens known to date. Such specificity makes HLA-G a prime target for immuno-therapy, greatly limiting the side effects on healthy cells.

Among the nine projects interviewed this year, the CAR-Go project presented by Invectys was awarded "Best project – start-up category" by the [MATWIN International Board](#), a committee unique in Europe, composed of key academic opinion leaders from leading European cancer research centers and international Global R&D decision makers from the 15* industrial partners of MATWIN.

"We strongly believe in the potential of our HLA-G platform, and are working to accelerate its development towards human patients. Invectys is honored to have been selected by MATWIN's Board this year. It shows that industry shares our analysis", says Simon Wain-Hobson, Invectys' co-founder and CSO.

Invectys is currently the only company having developed both blocking antibodies and CAR T Cells specific to HLA-G, and holds a strong IP portfolio with 4 patents already filed.

About Invectys

Founded in 2010 at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, [Invectys SA](#) is a biopharmaceutical company focused on the development of innovative immuno-oncology treatments cutting across many cancers. Having raised €38 million, the company has developed a broad pipeline including therapeutic vaccines and immune checkpoint inhibitors. Invectys has two products in Phase II clinical trials in France and the US. Both products enlist and restore the natural antitumor efficacy of cancer patients' immune systems.

About MATWIN

[MATWIN](#), a Unicancer subsidiary, is an original national open-innovation initiative aiming at developing translational research in oncology and facilitating the transfer of innovations to patients. MATWIN's main objective is to support innovative projects from academic laboratories or start-ups to promote early partnerships. The programme relies on a historic partnership with 15* major international laboratories (Amgen, AstraZeneca, BMS, Boehringer Ingelheim, Celgene, Genomic Health, Gilead, GSK, Janssen, Nanostring Technologies, Novartis, Pierre Fabre, Pfizer, Roche, Sanofi) and the global ecosystem concerned with developing innovation in the fight against cancer.