

## Press Release

For immediate release: September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### **Early and successful completion of European Union's H2020 Project**

**InterAx Biotech AG, a Biotech company located in Villigen, Switzerland, has completed its two-year Horizon 2020-project "PICARD" successfully and four months in advance to the deadline. The newly developed drug discovery platform combines for the first time classical pharmacology, computational methods, systems biology and artificial intelligence to revolutionise drug discovery.**

**Villigen, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

The European Union's SME Instrument Horizon 2020 Project PICARD which started on October 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 was successfully completed by InterAx four months in advance on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. With a total project volume of 2.49M EUR, InterAx expanded its drug discovery platform and boosted its commercialization efforts with the acquisition of three Pharma collaborations. With the integration of Artificial Intelligence, InterAx is now able to actively determine how to modify the chemistry of compounds to achieve specific cellular responses.

"I am very proud of the whole InterAx team for the successful achievement of the very ambitious goals set in our Picard H2020 project in such short time and with limited resources" explains Dr. Aurélien Rizk, CEO of InterAx Biotech. "The overall assessment of PICARD by the EU experts has been extremely good – the project has delivered exceptional results with significant immediate impact for the industry."

InterAx has been pushing the boundaries of current knowledge and practice in cutting-edge technologies in an inherently interdisciplinary combination of analytical science, systems biology and machine learning. The ability to predict in vivo activity of novel chemical entities will lead to a reduction of animal testing, an increase of clinical trials success rate and a reduction of time to market for new treatments.

InterAx has established a platform that combines cell-based real-time assays and proprietary computational algorithms to enable intelligent drug candidate design targeting the largest class of drug targets (G Protein-Coupled Receptors, GPCRs) – which counts for more than 30% of all approved drugs. The company applies mathematical models and simulations to in house-derived experimental data to address the complexity of drug-induced cellular signalling mechanisms. The technology offers outstanding potential to design new medicines that specifically activate the cellular response responsible for the desired therapeutic effect and reduce the cellular response responsible for adverse effects.

The company is currently focusing on further advancements of its technology platform and on in-house drug discovery of next-generation therapeutics for conditions with high unmet medical needs.

The InterAx discovery program to treat several solid tumors is showing promising results. First in class drug molecules with high affinity and potency on a novel target are under further investigation in animals after initial promising results in vitro to block proliferation and migration of breast cancer cells.

The target receptor is essential for the coordination of many physiological processes, in particular the immune cell behavior. Its deregulation is linked with many solid tumors, inflammatory diseases, and neurological diseases.

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