

HEALTH | BIOTECHNOLOGIES | INNOVATION | FLUORESCENCE IMAGING | SURGERY | CANCER

## Fluoptics speeds up the developpement of its proprietary tracer Angiostamp™

*Grenoble* – Fluoptics, specialized in fluorescence imaging for guided surgery (FIGS), is proud to announce its selection by the 18<sup>th</sup> call for projects from the French Interministerial Fund (*FUI, Fonds unique interministériel*) to speed up the development of its proprietary tracer AngioStamp™ to be used for cancer surgery, and more specifically for gliomas, a highly aggressive type of brain tumors.

This project of research and development, named GliomTracker, with a budget of about 2.3 M€, will be managed in collaboration with different partners. The company Eras Labo, specialized in the production of molecules for health applications, will help managing the industrial part, while the research center CEA-Leti/Cinatec (Grenoble) will deal with the preclinical trials, and the university hospital of Grenoble with the clinical trial.

The GliomTracker project is one of the three collaborative projects that were approved by the cluster Lyon Biopôle and awarded with funds from the Government (FUI) and from regional authorities, including the Rhône-Alpes Region, the Grand Lyon, the departmental council from Isère, and European funds FEDER.

The GliomTracker project will result in the creation of a network of close partners in order to define the methodology and the bonds between companies, leading to a faster development for these new molecules with reduced costs.

*« GliomTracker falls perfectly within the framework of the Interministry Fund (FUI) to promote regional industrial activity. It is of highest importance that France makes itself capable of producing these molecules. This project will result in a new industry in the Rhône-Alpes region for the production of molecules for the benefit of patients, so that the French know how for R&D and innovation may be valued through a local industrial application »,* emphasizes Odile Allard, Fluoptics' CEO.

*« It is a major step that is taken today »,* says Odile Allard. *« We will be able to work locally at the industrialization of the tracer production at the scale of several grams per batch thanks to our collaboration with Eras Labo. We will then initiate a first clinical trial in human at the horizon end 2015 with a view to demonstrate the relevance of the technique for the surgery of gliomas for tumor margins visualization. »*

Angiostamp™ is a non-radioactive, fluorescent™ molecular probe. It binds specifically to tumor cells and accumulates in neoangiogenesis regions. Tumors can thus be labeled

with a great precision. Preclinical trials have shown that the molecule was of great interest for the following cancer types: breast, ovarian, head and neck, lung, colorectal, melanomas, sarcomas and gliomas.

Combined with Fluobeam<sup>®</sup>, the optical imaging system developed by Fluoptics for the detection of near infrared fluorescent signals, this tracer will enable the surgeon to visualize intraoperatively and in real time tumor zones invisible to the naked eye, and make it possible to remove them with a great precision.

#### **About Fluoptics**

Founded in 2009, Fluoptics develops and markets innovative solutions in the field of fluorescence image-guided surgery. This technology has many applications, among others in surgical oncology, for the resection of tumors and metastasis, for sentinel lymph nodes detection, but also in cardiovascular surgery, reconstructive surgery and liver surgery. Based in Grenoble, and in Boston, MA, USA, Fluoptics has today 15 employees. For more information: [www.fluoptics.com](http://www.fluoptics.com)

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