



Anti-obesity start-up Antag Therapeutics ApS raises 2.7 mEUR with Novo Seeds

Antag Therapeutics ApS is founded on decades of seminal research focused on peptide-based drugs and dietary-related metabolic diseases from Professors Mette M. Rosenkilde and Jens J. Holst at the University of Copenhagen. In collaboration with clinicians from Gentofte and Bispebjerg hospital, the team has discovered a naturally occurring peptide-antagonist of the Glucose-dependent Insulinotropic Polypeptide (GIP) receptor and has conducted several human studies with demonstrated effects on fat metabolism.

“We are very privileged to have Novo Seeds as our investor as their network and competence have already been a great asset in setting the team and developing the plan for Antag. With this investment, we will focus our drug discovery program and demonstrate proof of concept in non-human primates for our most advanced development candidate”, says co-founder and CEO Alexander H. Sparre-Ulrich.

Novo Seeds has a long-standing relationship with the team behind Antag Therapeutics. Antag has been in incubation with Novo Seeds since 2014, and funded through both the exploratory and the pre-seed grant program of the Novo Nordisk Foundation. Based on the team’s continuous progression and technological breakthroughs, Novo Seeds invested 2.7 mEUR in the start-up.

“We have been following the progress and maturation of this project since 2014, and have been very impressed by the depth of the science, the team’s ability to execute, and the data generated”, says Emmanuelle Coutanceau, Principal at Novo Seeds. Emmanuelle will join Jens J. Holst, and industry veterans Kirsten Drejer, former CEO of Symphogen A/S, and CEO from Mission Therapeutics, Anker Lundemose, as a Board member of Antag Therapeutics ApS.

Kirsten Drejer, Chairman of Antag: “It gives me great pleasure to join the Board of Directors of Antag, and I look forward to be part of this team aiming to bring GIP antagonists to the market as valuable future drugs for the benefit of a growing population of patients.”

About Novo Holdings A/S and Novo Seeds:

Novo Seeds is the early-stage investment arm of Novo Holdings A/S. Novo Holdings A/S is a private limited liability company wholly owned by the Novo Nordisk Foundation. The company is the holding company in the Novo Group, comprising Novo Nordisk A/S, Novozymes A/S and NNIT A/S, and is responsible for managing the Foundation’s assets. In addition to being the major shareholder in the Novo Group companies, Novo Holdings A/S provides seed and venture capital to development-stage companies, takes significant ownership positions in well-established companies within the life sciences and manages a broad portfolio of financial assets. For further information, please visit www.novoholdings.dk

About Antag Therapeutics ApS:

Antag Therapeutics is a biotech start-up developing peptide-based therapeutics for the treatment

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of dietary-related metabolic diseases. The company is a spinout from the University of Copenhagen and stems from the research groups of Professors Mette M. Rosenkilde and Jens J. Holst.