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ImmunoQure AG announces publication in the journal *Arthritis & Rheumatology* of findings that advance its Interferon program

Düsseldorf, Germany April 20 , 2017. ImmunoQure AG, a German biotechnology company focused on the development of autoantibodies as therapeutics to treat common human diseases today announced the publication of data in the journal *Arthritis & Rheumatology*.

ImmunoQure's focus is the identification and development of autoantibodies derived from an ultra rare patient population with an autoimmune disorder called autoimmune polyendocrine syndrome type 1 (APS1 or APECED). APS-1 patients have a mutation in the AIRE gene which is involved in controlling central tolerance – a key mechanism used by the human immune system to filter out immune cells that have the potential to target the body's own proteins ("self proteins") rather than those which are not ("non-self proteins") e.g., from infectious agents such as bacteria or viruses.

In the publication, the authors studied the biological function of the stimulator of interferon (IFN) genes (STING) protein. STING-associated disease presents a wide phenotypic spectrum that includes systemic inflammation with fever, a severe skin vasculopathy leading, in some cases, to extensive tissue loss, and interstitial lung disease resulting in pulmonary fibrosis and end-stage respiratory failure.

The development of novel inhibitors of Type I interferons is a key objective for the treatment of interferonopathies such as STING-associated diseases. ImmunoQure's interferon program and its lead drug candidate IQ004-19D11 represents one of the most promising candidates to effectively treat human diseases that are driven by the presence of elevated Type I interferons such as STING-associated diseases, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus and Sjögrens disease.

Publication:

Frémond, M.-L., et al. Brief Report: Blockade of TANK-Binding Kinase 1/IKK ϵ Inhibits Mutant Stimulator of Interferon Genes (STING)-Mediated Inflammatory Responses in Human Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells. *Arthritis Rheumatol.* Hoboken NJ 69, 1495–1501 (2017).
<https://doi.org/10.1002/art.40122>

About ImmunoQure AG

ImmunoQure was founded by a consortium of leading researchers from the Universities of Tartu, Estonia and Helsinki Finland, King's College, London UK, the APECED patient support charity APECED Oy and HS LifeSciences, Düsseldorf, Germany. ImmunoQure is financed by QureInvest II (SCS) SICAR, a specialist European life sciences entrepreneurial investment fund advised by HS LifeSciences GmbH, Düsseldorf, Germany.
