



**XENOTHERA**

**PRESS RELEASE**

*Nantes (France), 8th June 2023*

**French biotech XENOTHERA  
strengthens its management team and governance.**

**With four biomolecules from its glyco-humanized antibody (GH-pAbs) technology platform at clinical stage, and a highly promising pipeline, Nantes-based biotech [XENOTHERA](#), which celebrates its ninth anniversary this year, is continuing to build on its momentum by strengthening its management team and governance.**

The **Strategic Committee**, chaired by Odile Duvaux, MD, PhD, ENS Paris, and co-founder of XENOTHERA, is made up of informed representatives of the company's main shareholders and qualified personalities.

In addition, XENOTHERA today announces:

✓ **The appointment of Philippe Rousseau as Chief Executive Officer (CEO):**



**Philippe Rousseau:** a graduate of HEC, with over twenty-five years' impressive experience in the biotechnology industry (notably with Genset, Vivalis, Cytoo, Pherecydes and Biophytis), both in the United States and Europe.

Philippe Rousseau, 52, joined XENOTHERA in May 2023. As CEO, he manages overall operations, co-develops and implements the company's strategy.

✓ **The appointment of Firas Bassissi as Chief Scientific Officer (CSO):**



**Firas Bassissi, DVM, PhD:** with extensive expertise in translational research, from basic science to the patient, and a background in biotech and pharma (Trophos, Abbott, Genoscience, Sanifit), Firas is co-inventor of 11 international patents in oncology and cardiology, and has been a reviewer for the European Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences since 2016.

Joining the company in May 2023, Firas Bassissi, 49, is in charge of the global company's scientific development.

✓ **The creation of an Executive Committee** comprising Philippe Rousseau, Firas Bassissi and Françoise Shneiker.



**Françoise Shneiker, MD:** holding a medical degree, a certificate in endocrinology, diabetology and metabolic diseases, an MBA from I.A.E in Nice and a certificate in statistics and research methodology, Françoise Shneiker worked in various pharmaceutical companies (Chiesi, Amgen, Roche, Janssen, Schering-Plough) in oncology, haematology and immunology.

**She joined XENOTHERA in 2021 as Chief Medical Officer (CMO).**

- ✓ A reinforced **scientific and medical governance:**
  - The **Scientific Advisory Board is chaired by Bernard Vanhove, PhD, Director of Research at the CNRS.** After 3 years at XENOTHERA as CSO, now Director of Development at Egle Therapeutics, Bernard has extensive biotech experience (TC Land, Effimune, Ose Immunotherapeutics). The Scientific Advisory Board analyses scientific advances and advises the company on its medium and long-term R&D strategy. Bernard is a member of the Strategy Committee.
  - The **Oncology Clinical Advisory Board** is made up of a number of European medical Professors (names confidential). This board is responsible for the clinical development of XENOTHERA's anti-cancer GH-pAb, in particular the First-in-Human trials due to start shortly. In particular, it has a role as an expert in the safety of patients taking part in Research Involving the Human Person (RIPH), in accordance with international rules on clinical trials.

*"This organization, and in particular the appointment of Philippe as Chief Executive Officer, will take XENOTHERA a step forward. Our proprietary technology has demonstrated its safety and efficacy in several therapeutic areas with major medical needs: transplantation, viruses, bacteria and now cancer. Our ambition to bring new therapeutic solutions to patients as quickly as possible will be carried out brilliantly by this strengthened team, under Philippe's leadership. This is a major milestone, and I'm delighted to see how far we've come and the exciting future that lies ahead,"* says **Odile Duvaux, co-founder and CEO of XENOTHERA.**

Since its creation, XENOTHERA has been developing innovative drugs based on its glyco-humanized polyclonal antibody (GH-pAb) technology. XENOTHERA's antibodies address major therapeutic needs in several areas, including oncology, immunosuppression, viral and bacterial infections. XENOTHERA's GMP platform enables allows for accelerated development thanks to its internal biomanufacturing facility, its clinical experience (400 patients exposed to GH-pAb), and its clinical and regulatory expertise. In the clinical trials already conducted (phase I, phase II, phase III), GH-pAb has demonstrated its safety and therapeutic potential.

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#### **About XENOTHERA:**

Founded in 2014 by a team gathering renowned scientists (Prof. Jean-Paul Soulillou, Nantes, Prof. Jean-Marie Bach, Nantes, Prof. Emanuele Cozzi, Padova, Prof. Cesare Galli, Cremona) and chaired by Odile Duvaux since its inception, XENOTHERA is a Nantes-based biotech company developing new therapeutic modes in many fields (immunology, oncology, viral infections, ...). The company develops treatments based on a unique proprietary antibody technology. Its technological platform is built on a dual expertise in genetics and immunology. The biotech has a complete portfolio of products, three of which are in the clinic: LIS1, an immunosuppressant for solid organ transplantation; XAV-19, an anti-Covid treatment for patients with moderate disease; XAB05, for the prevention and treatment of multi-drug resistant bacterial infections.

XENOTHERA is part of the scientific and medical environment of the Pays de la Loire region (France). Since its creation, the company has raised 43 million euros, its main financial backers being the Pays de la Loire Region, BPI France and the European fund EIC Fund.

For more information: [www.xenothera.com](http://www.xenothera.com)

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