

Imugene Ltd

01:06 01 Oct 2019

Imugene presents HER2 immuno-oncology vaccines success at ESMO ahead of 2020 studies

Imugene Limited (ASX:IMU) medical investigators have delivered a number of poster presentations on findings from laboratory and Phase 1b study of the clinical-stage company's HER-Vaxx cancer vaccine.

The immuno-oncology company's investigators gave three poster presentations over the five-day European Society of Medical Oncology Congress (ESMO19), which concludes today in Spain.

HER-Vaxx cancer vaccine results

HER-Vaxx lead inventor Professor Ursula Wiedermann of the Medical University Vienna, Austria, presented findings in Barcelona from a phase 1b study of the vaccine in gastric cancer patients over-expressing the vaccine's HER2 target protein.

All three patients in an objective response test responded to the optimal 50-microgram dosing, experiencing a reduction in their tumour size over a minimum time period.

In 5 of 11 patients assessed for tumour responses, their tumour size reduction was also associated with high HER2-specific antibody levels.

Imugene believes this shows promise for the vaccine's ability to inhibit HER2-phosphorylation - a vital mechanism of HER2-targeting drugs that inhibit cancer cell growth.

Imugene managing director and CEO Leslie Chong reported today: "We are pleased to share this promising new clinical data with the international medical community at ESMO.

"Together with our dedicated investigators and research teams we are building an impressive library of evidence to support the clinical potential our unique B-cell cancer vaccine pipeline and clinical development strategy."

A follow-on open-label phase II study of HER-Vaxx in 68 patients with metastatic gastric cancer that over-expresses the HER-2 protein was started in March 2019.

The company aims to wrap up the study in 2020.

Dr Wiedermann's poster had abstract number 1212P and was titled 'Comprehensive results of a Phase 1b study with a HER2/neu B-cell peptide vaccine administered with cisplatin and 5-fluorouracil or capecitabine chemotherapy show safety, immunogenicity and clinical response in patients with HER2/neu overexpressing advanced gastric cancer'.

Price: 0.105

Market Cap: \$482.77 m

1 Year Share Price Graph



Share Information

Code: IMU

Listing: ASX

52 week High Low
0.14 0.016

Sector: Pharma & Biotech

Website: www.imugene.com

Company Synopsis:

Imugene Ltd (ASX:IMU) is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange.

action@proactiveinvestors.com

It is available from the Imugene website.

HER-Vaxx has potential in a number of cancers

The HER-Vaxx vaccine is a B-cell peptide cancer vaccine designed to treat tumours that over-express the HER2/neu receptor.

These cancers include gastric, breast, ovarian, lung and pancreatic cancers.

The immunotherapy is constructed from B-cell epitopes derived from the extracellular domain of well-known validated cancer target HER-2/neu.

HER-Vaxx has been shown in pre-clinical and Phase I studies to stimulate a potent polyclonal antibody response to cancer target HER-2/neu.

Vaccine combinations show promise

Medical investigators, doctors Tanios Bekaii-Saab and Joshua Tobias, also delivered poster presentations during ESMO, showing that when HER2 vaccines were combined with PD1 vaccines in preclinical models they reduced cancer growth in a number of standard models.

Doctors Bekaii-Saab, of the Mayo Clinic in Phoenix, Arizona in the US, and Tobias, of Medical University Vienna, Austria, presented findings from the early-phase study.

Dr Bekaii-Saab focused on safety and antimour activity in a presentation titled 'Antitumor activity and safety of a novel PD-1 vaccine (PD1-Vaxx) alone and in combination with two chimeric HER-2 peptide vaccine (B-Vaxx) in syngeneic Balb/c mice and canines'.

Investigators found that when Imugene's PD1-Vaxx was combined with B-Vaxx it was more effective in reducing tumour growth in a HER2 positive colon cancer model than in the PD1-Vaxx vaccine alone or in the positive control standard anti-mouse PD-1 monoclonal antibody.

The vaccine combination was judged safe and did not appear to show any toxicity or autoimmunity.

Imugene hopes to evaluate PD1-Vaxx and its possible efficacy in a range of human cancers.

Immunisation focus

Dr Tobias looks at immunisation in a presentation titled 'Active immunisation with immune checkpoint inhibitors-mimotope elicits strong in vivo anti-tumour effect against Her-2/neu-expressing tumours'.

Investigators found immunisation with a PD1-derived mimotope vaccine and Imugene's HER-Vaxx together increased the anti-tumour effect of the combination vaccine compared to each vaccine alone when used in a model of HER2-positive breast cancer.

Active immunisation with the PD1-derived mimotope vaccine also increased cancer cell death and the anti-proliferative effect of the HER2 positive cancer cells in breast cancer tumours.

A monotherapy Phase I trial of PD1-Vaxx will start next year.

Combination study with other immunotherapies is also in the works, along with research to assess safety and efficacy.

Chong highlighted the potential value of the company's vaccine, saying: "The promising new B-cell vaccine data presented at this year's ESMO congress and other major cancer research conferences has helped raise the profile of our promising anti-cancer pipeline and its potential clinical value when used in combination with other immune-oncology therapies.

"These latest presentations of comprehensive vaccine combination results help further demonstrate the significant value of Imugene's B-cell vaccine strategy and the strength of our pipeline."

Proactive Investors facilitate the largest global investor network across 4 continents in 4 languages. With a team of analysts, journalists & professional investors Proactive produce independent coverage on 1000's of companies across every sector for private investors, private client brokers, fund managers and international investor communities.

Contact us +44 (0)207 989 0813 action@proactiveinvestors.com

No investment advice

The Company is a publisher. You understand and agree that no content published on the Site constitutes a recommendation that any particular security, portfolio of securities, transaction, or investment strategy is suitable or advisable for any specific person. You understand that the Content on the Site is provided for information purposes only, and none of the information contained on the Site constitutes an offer, solicitation or recommendation to buy or sell a security. You understand that the Company receives either monetary or securities compensation for our services. We stand to benefit from any volume which any Content on the Site may generate.

You further understand that none of the information providers or their affiliates will advise you personally concerning the nature, potential, advisability, value, suitability or profitability of any particular security, portfolio of securities, transaction, investment, investment strategy, or other matter.

You understand that the Site may contain opinions from time to time with regard to securities mentioned in other products, including Company-related products, and that those opinions may be different from those obtained by using another product related to the Company. You understand and agree that contributors may write about securities in which they or their firms have a position, and that they may trade such securities for their own account. In cases where the position is held at the time of publication and such position is known to the Company, appropriate disclosure is made. However, you understand and agree that at the time of any transaction that you make, one or more contributors may have a position in the securities written about. You understand that price and other data is supplied by sources believed to be reliable, that the calculations herein are made using such data, and that neither such data nor such calculations are guaranteed by these sources, the Company, the information providers or any other person or entity, and may not be complete or accurate.

From time to time, reference may be made in our marketing materials to prior articles and opinions we have published. These references may be selective, may reference only a portion of an article or recommendation, and are likely not to be current. As markets change continuously, previously published information and data may not be current and should not be relied upon.

The Site does not, and is not intended to, provide investment, tax, accounting, legal or insurance advice, and is not and should not be construed as providing any of the foregoing. You should consult an attorney or other relevant professional regarding your specific legal, tax, investment or other needs as tailored to your specific situation.

In exchange for publishing services rendered by the Company on behalf of Imugene Ltd named herein, including the promotion by the Company of Imugene Ltd in any Content on the Site, the Company receives from said issuer annual aggregate cash compensation in the amount up to Twenty Five Thousand dollars (\$25,000).