

Paris, 5 December 2019

Press release

Erganeo signs a licensing agreement with start-up EverZom, creating a platform for the production of biological tools, extracellular vesicles, to benefit the emergence of tomorrow's biotherapies.



Jeanne Volatron, Nicolas Rousseau, Naceur Tounekti



On Tuesday, 3 December, Erganeo and start-up EVerZom signed an exclusive licensing agreement for the development of an innovative extracellular vesicle bioproduction procedure. A technology that aims to provide new industrial production solutions to facilitate and accelerate the development of new therapeutic strategies in regenerative medicine.

A promising alternative for cellular therapies

Extracellular vesicles (EVs), veritable mediators in intercellular communication, were recently used by numerous teams of researchers worldwide to regenerate damaged tissue in the field of regenerative medicine. Instead of directly injecting stem cells, it was their EVs alone that were injected into the patient and that act in damaged tissue. Using EVs will make it possible to overcome part of the risk associated with the administration of stem cells, while preserving the same effectiveness and facilitating delivery to the patient's bed. At this stage, however, their production remains slow and complex, which is a real obstacle to realising all this potential. There are no less than 150 million patients worldwide (suffering from stroke, myocardial infarction, osteoarthritis, etc.) for whom no effective therapeutic solution to reconstruct their damaged tissue currently exists.

The technology, developed by researchers from the Matière et Système Complexes (MSC) laboratory, makes it possible to produce 10 times more extracellular vesicles in 10 times less time than conventionally-used methods today, while preserving their regenerative properties. The goal of EVerZom, cofounded by Jeanne Volatron, CEO, Nicolas Rousseau, COO and the researchers at MSC laboratory, is to maximise the value of this innovative technology via an extracellular vesicle bioproduction platform.

Protection of high potential technology

The innovative procedure enabling this mode of production was the subject of intellectual protection obtained by ERGANEEO on the basis of research carried out at the MSC (CNRS/Université de Paris) laboratory in collaboration with Généthon.

The start-up, EVerZom, founded in September 2019, has already received considerable recognition for its development potential (I-Lab Contest Award, Universal Biotech Award, Felix award, among others), which has been matched by the numerous expressions of interest from industrialists.

With the signing of this licensing agreement, the CEO of Erganeo, Suat Topsu, welcomed the opportunity to, *“support an entrepreneur offering a real breakthrough innovation in the field of biotherapies, who is, furthermore, anxious to offer patients a degree of safety and speed of action that are unique today.”*

Jeanne Volatron, CEO and Co-Founder of EVerZom responded that, *“Erganeo and the supervisory bodies have made it possible to obtain the intellectual property rights for this innovative technology. Their support demonstrates the willingness and support of a number of stakeholders that are keen to maximize the value of this technology and introduce it to a market that still has no effective solution for treating certain illnesses.”*

About Erganeo – www.erganeo.com

Erganeo is an investment fund that specializes in breakthrough innovations (Deep Tech) with major societal impact. We invest early in the game to secure researchers' newest inventions before they are transferred to companies or before start-ups are founded, across a wide range of scientific fields: Biotech, Infotech (telecom, connected objects, big data, AI) and EnerTech (new energy, chemistry, materials), among others.

Erganeo aims to accelerate and simplify links between research and industry for the benefit of society. To do so, we finance and accompany the new generation of French researchers and entrepreneurs on the road to international recognition and success.

As a member of the SATT Network, Erganeo draws on the Ile-de-France network in building the foundations of a better tomorrow, tapping into a talent pool of over 20,000 researchers across 350 cutting-edge, leading laboratories. Since it was founded, Erganeo has invested over €29m, thus contributing to the signing of 70 licensing agreements with companies of all sizes, and setting up 16 start-ups.

Press contact: Céline Clausener - Director of Public Affairs - celine.clausener@erganeo.com

About EVerZom - www.everzom.com

EVerZom is at the service of regenerative medicine with a new biological tool: extracellular vesicles (EVs), today considered an alternative to cellular therapies. One of the main obstacles to the transfer of EVs to clinical development are the currently inefficient production methods.

EVerZom aims to remove these technological obstacles through the creation of a new EV production and customized engineering platform destined for pharmaceutical and veterinary industry players developing tomorrow's biotherapies.

EVerZom was co-founded by six partners, Jeanne Volatron, CEO, Nicolas Rousseau, COO and the four researchers who developed this technology and constitute the company's scientific committee.

Contact: Jeanne Volatron - CEO & Co-Founder - jeanne.volatron@everzom.com
Nicolas Rousseau - COO & Co-Founder - nicolas.rousseau@everzom.com