

PRESS RELEASE

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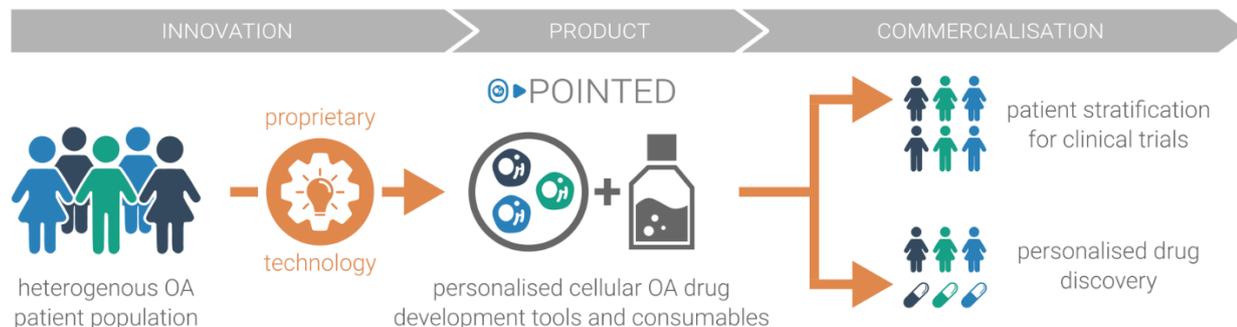
InSCREENeX wins Horizon 2020 SME Instrument Phase-1 support

InSCREENeX GmbH has secured funding under the Horizon 2020 SME Instrument Phase-1 programme. This programme is highly competitive, with only 274 out of the 2822 submitted proposals having been selected for funding. The aim of this project is a feasibility study which paves the way for generation and commercialisation of ground-breaking personalised test systems enabling precision medicine for osteoarthritis (O-POINTED). This game-changing approach will serve as a proof-of-concept for the creation of patient cohorts-in-a-dish taking drug development to the next, much more efficient level.

The project: O-POINTED

Osteoarthritis patient cohorts in the dish are personalised cellular drug development tools for osteoarthritis precision medicine. Osteoarthritis is the fastest growing cause of disability worldwide. Still, there is currently no drug available that targets the underlying pathophysiology of osteoarthritis.

Clinical trials testing disease-modifying drug candidates consistently fail. This is because osteoarthritis is a complex disease and currently used drug development tools completely disregard patient variability. Consequently, such non-personalised drugs fail to reach high enough response rates in highly variable osteoarthritis patient populations.



O-POINTED is the first tool to enable pharma and biotech companies to personalise the osteoarthritis drug development process. O-POINTED is a cellular test system based on personalised and expandable cell lines generated from a cohort of more than 50 osteoarthritis patients. It represents osteoarthritis patient variability including all the main disease phenotypes (bone-, cartilage-, synovium-driven).

Compared to conventional test systems, it is easier to use and more relevant, with the unique benefit of representing osteoarthritis patient variability.



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About InSCREENeX GmbH

InSCREENeX establishes novel mammalian cell systems that support the drug development process. InSCREENeX's product solutions speed up drug development (SCREENflex) and enable physiologically relevant tests in vitro under in vivo conditions (CI-SCREEN).

SCREENflex aims at earlier stages of the drug development process as it allows to establish stable recombinant cells which overexpress e.g. drug targets like GPCRs, ion channels or kinases. These customized cell lines are robust and thus are used by the customers in high-throughput screenings to identify lead candidates. The main advantages of SCREENflex are the rapid turnaround time (4-6 weeks) and the possibility to adjust the extent of target expression to a desired level.

CI-SCREEN is the core technology behind O-POINTED. It is a functional immortalization technology enabling the generation of novel cell systems from any primary cell. These cell systems are available in unlimited amounts, easy to use and, most importantly, reflect the physiology of cells found in the body. This enables the production of an infinite number of tissue-like cells for every application in drug development.