

## **Aurora Science announces the start of biotech investment activities with a transaction to support Peptomyc, S.L.**

**This investment is led by Aurora Science and supported by existing investors**

**Milan, Italy, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020** – Aurora Science, a biotech investment company resulting from the partnership of Aurora-TT, Rottapharm Biotech and Italfarmaco, announces the inception of its investment activities with a transaction to support Peptomyc S.L., a Barcelona-based biotech company specialized in the development of a new generation of cell penetrating peptides (CPPs) targeting the Myc oncoprotein for the treatment of different cancer types.

Aurora Science led a syndicate of existing investors, including Alta Life Sciences, HealthEquity, the Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology (CDTI) and a syndicate of business angels. Also Peptomyc's employees had the opportunity to invest in the company at this time in a financing round of EUR 11.4 million total.

*“We were excited to participate in this financing”* said Guido Guidi, chairman of Aurora Science. *“Peptomyc is a promising company matching our industrial criteria, following a rigorous selection process managed by Aurora Science’s three partners, Aurora-TT, Rottapharm Biotech and Italfarmaco. We are glad to support a company with front edge science and outstanding potential to bring benefits to patients.”*

*“We are delighted to have attracted such high-profile investors to our company,”* said Laura Soucek, CEO of Peptomyc. *“I am confident that their industrial background and extensive experience in bio-pharma and translational medicine will significantly contribute to the success of our development plan.”*

With a full private ownership, Aurora Science targets high potential assets in Europe bridging the gap between R&D and industrial execution, entering companies in early development phases with a know-how from research to product launch. With an industrial approach, Aurora Science fosters the scale-up of its company assets to accelerate milestone achievements targeting critical issues such as manufacturing, clinical design, regulatory and business development.

## About Aurora Science

Aurora Science ([www.aurorascience.eu](http://www.aurorascience.eu)) is a biotech investment company integrating an innovative financial and industrial approach in the research and development challenge. The company is focused on independent and entrepreneurial biotech start-ups in Europe with high therapeutic potential, providing industrial and financial support.

## About Peptomyc

Peptomyc ([www.peptomyc.com](http://www.peptomyc.com)) is a spin-off from VHIO – the Vall d’Hebron Institute of Oncology – and ICREA – the Catalan Institute of Research and Advanced Studies -, founded in December 2014 in Barcelona, Spain. The company is focused on the development of innovative cell penetrating peptides (CPPs) targeting the Myc oncoprotein for cancer treatment.

## About Aurora-TT

Aurora-TT ([www.aurora-tt.com](http://www.aurora-tt.com)) is a Technology Transfer Intermediation Company based in Milano, Italy. Aurora-TT identifies promising scientific breakthroughs and companies from academia, research centers, entrepreneurs and other entities to translate them to industrial success. Guido Guidi, MD serves as Chairman, Edoardo Negroni, MBA and Gabriele Campi, PhD, serve as Managing Partners and Paolo Rizzardi, MD and Pierluigi Paracchi as Venture Partners.

## About Rottapharm Biotech

Rottapharm Biotech ([www.rottapharmbiotech.com](http://www.rottapharmbiotech.com)) is a research company dedicated to the development of innovative drugs with an expertise including medicinal chemistry for small molecules, the generation and selection of new monoclonal antibodies, the development of biological treatments and advanced therapies, and a set of capabilities from preclinical to clinical development.

## About Italfarmaco Group

Italfarmaco ([www.italfarmaco.com](http://www.italfarmaco.com)) is a specialty pharmaceutical company engaged in the discovery, development, manufacturing and global marketing of branded prescription and nonprescription products. Italfarmaco’s research and development addresses new therapeutic treatments of specialty and rare diseases. Through both marketed drugs and compounds in development, Italfarmaco is dedicated to serving patients whose needs remain largely unmet.

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