



Zedira, Dr. Falk Pharma and the University of Mainz Hospital, which together comprise a flagship project of the CI3 excellence cluster, are to receive subsidy funding for clinical development of a celiac disease drug.

Darmstadt, Freiburg, Mainz
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The consortium consisting of Zedira, Dr. Falk Pharma and Prof. Schuppan of the medical department at the Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz has announced that their collaboration on drug development of celiac disease is being subsidised under the CI3 excellence cluster of the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research (German abbreviation: BMBF). The project involves preclinical and clinical development of the ZED1227 drug candidate, a low-molecular tissue transglutaminase blocker. The joint venture was commended as a flagship project of the excellence cluster for individualised immune intervention (CI3).

Celiac Disease is the most common chronic inflammation of the small intestine. The autoimmune disease is caused by alimentary gluten in genetically susceptible individuals.

About Zedira:

The Darmstadt-based biotech company focuses on celiac disease and consequently also on the transglutaminase family of enzymes. The Company develops, produces and markets products for research and development as well as for diagnostics. Based on its patented family of low-molecular transglutaminase blockers, Zedira is establishing an active ingredient pipeline covering the primary indication of celiac disease. As an area of secondary indication the Company is working on new approaches to thrombosis prophylaxis. Zedira is a portfolio company of the German High-Tech Gründerfonds.

About Dr. Falk Pharma:

Dr. Falk Pharma GmbH specializes in the development and marketing of pharmaceuticals used in hepatology and gastroenterology. Falk is one of the leading European companies in the field marketing its products by means of subsidiaries in selected countries and a network of sales partners. Furthermore, the Falk Foundation, an independent organization associated with Dr. Falk Pharma, is well-known for its international symposia, forums and educational literature supporting medical doctors, patients and their families.

About Prof. Schuppan, Medical Department, University of Mainz:

Detlef Schuppan is Professor of Molecular and Translational Medicine (Fibrosis and Celiac Disease Research) at the Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, Germany. He also obtained a Full Professorship of Medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School in Boston, USA. He is considered an international opinion leader in celiac disease, both as physician and researcher. In Mainz he is going to establish a center for patients with celiac disease, complicated celiac disease and gluten sensitivity.

About CI3 cluster:

The CI3 excellence cluster pools the outstanding expertise in the Rhine-Main cluster region of Germany involving innovative new therapies and diagnostics in the field of individualised immune intervention. To this end, CI3 is putting together a network of players from the business, research and healthcare communities as well as government and is shaping the integral element across the entire innovation and value creation chain.

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Zedira GmbH

Roesslerstr. 83
64293 Darmstadt
Germany

Phone: +49 6151 3251-00

Fax: +49 6151 3251-19

Web: www.zedira.com

E-mail: contact@zedira.com

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