



## **Press release**

# **Atriva Therapeutics GmbH moves into the Innovation and Start-Up Center for Biotechnology (IZB)**

## **The company works on therapy for severe viral infectious diseases of the respiratory tract**

**Martinsried near Munich**, November 22, 2022 – The Innovation and Start-Up Center for Biotechnology (IZB), one of the leading biotechnology centers in Europe with over 50 biotech start-ups based there, today announced that the Tübingen biotech company Atriva Therapeutics GmbH is moving into the IZB. With additional locations in Tübingen and Frankfurt am Main, Atriva, is pursuing a novel approach to combating known and unknown viral infectious diseases of the respiratory tract, such as COVID-19 and influenza, where host cell proteins rather than the virus are used for therapy. Atriva's lead product, Zapnometinib (ATR-002), is a first-in-class agent targeting the host, that inhibits viral replication and favorably influences the body's immune response to RNA viruses. In September, Atriva announced promising top-line results from the Proof of Concept (POC) / Phase 2a study RESPIRE (Zapnometinib) in patients with COVID-19.

"We are delighted to be moving into the IZB, the hot spot for life sciences in Munich. The interdisciplinary exchange with the local network of first-class scientists will support us in our next steps to strengthen Atriva in its pioneering role as an innovator of host cell-based antiviral agents," says Dr. Rainer Lichtenberger, Managing Director of Atriva Therapeutics. "Our novel approach makes the development of viral resistance unlikely and therefore could even make an important contribution to protection against future pandemics."

"We warmly welcome Atriva Therapeutics to the IZB. Atriva is pursuing an exciting new approach to the treatment of viral respiratory infections, and we look forward to following the further development of the company here at the IZB," says Dr. Peter Hanns Zobel, Managing Director of the IZB.

At the beginning of November, Atriva announced the appointment of Christian Pangratz as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) effective as of January 15, 2023. Dr. Rainer Lichtenberger, co-founder of Atriva Therapeutics, will enter planned retirement in the course of 2023 after many years as CEO. After a transition period during which Dr. Lichtenberger as Co-CEO will hand over his duties, Christian Pangratz will then take over the sole management.

## **About the Innovation and Start-up Center for Biotechnology (IZB) in Martinsried near Munich**

The Fördergesellschaft IZB, founded in 1995, operates the Innovation and Start-up Centers for Biotechnology in Planegg-Martinsried and Freising-Weihenstephan and has developed into a leading biotechnology center. More than 50 biotech companies with over 700 employees are currently based on 26,000 m<sup>2</sup>. Here, work is being done on developing drugs for the most serious diseases, such as cancer, Alzheimer's and various autoimmune



diseases. A key criterion for the success of the IZBs is the physical proximity to cutting-edge research on the Martinsried/Grosshadern campus and the Weihenstephan campus. The new infrastructure measures such as the Faculty Club G2B (Gateway to Biotech), the IZB Residence CAMPUS AT HOME, the Elhardt chemistry college, the two kindergartens Bio Kids and Bio Kids<sup>2</sup> as well as the two restaurants SEVEN AND MORE and THE BOWL Food Lounge are also location factors that are highly valued by the founders of the company. Successful companies that emerged from the IZB include Corimmun (today Janssen-Cilag), Coriolis, Exosome Diagnostics (bought by Bio-Tech), ibidi, Immunic Therapeutics, Medigene, Micromet (today Amgen), MorphoSys, Octopharma or Rigontec (now MSD). More information at [www.izb-online.de](http://www.izb-online.de)

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