Immunocore wins Biotech of the Year at the SCRIP Awards 2015

Oxford, UK, 3 December, 2015 - Immunocore Limited, a world-leading biotechnology company developing novel T cell receptor (TCR) based biological drugs to treat cancer, viral infections and autoimmune disease, was awarded Biotech of the Year at last night’s SCRIP Awards 2015.

2015 has been a transformational year for Immunocore, which has seen the company advancing the clinical development of its lead candidate, IMCgp100, in advanced melanoma, advancing its partnerships with international pharmaceutical partners to develop novel immuno-oncology assets, entering into clinical combination trial collaborations, strengthening its executive team and Board, and future-proofing its balance sheet with a $320 million Series A fundraising giving the company significant financial flexibility.

The SCRIP Awards, now in its 11th year, is among the most prestigious in the calendar for the life sciences industry. The Biotech of the Year Award acknowledges excellence in the large and small pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies.

Eliot Forster, Chief Executive Officer of Immunocore, commented: “We are honoured to have received this award. Immunocore has had a good year, with strong advances in our clinical and corporate development and an investment round giving us the financial strength to focus on securing the best clinical outcome for our lead candidate, IMCgp100 and our internal and partner programmes. To receive acknowledgement from our peers of the continued excellence, all thanks to the hard work of our Board, investors and staff, is extremely gratifying.”

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Notes for editors
About Immunocore

Immunocore is one of the world’s leading biotechnology companies, with a highly innovative immuno-oncology platform technology called ImmTACs. ImmTACs are a novel class of biologic drugs based on the Company’s proprietary T cell receptor (TCR) technology which have the potential to treat diseases with high unmet medical need including cancer, infectious diseases and autoimmune diseases. Immunocore, based on decades of world-leading scientific innovation in the discovery of HLA targets and T cell receptor technology, has a pipeline of wholly-owned and partnered ImmTAC programmes with robust clinical data, validated by collaborations with world-leading pharmaceutical companies. Immunocore aims to leverage the utility of its platform across a wide range of indications to become a Premier Biotech company and world-leader in its field.

Immunocore’s world-leading science and strong IP position has attracted major pharmaceutical companies including Genentech, GlaxoSmithKline, MedImmune, the biologics division of AstraZeneca, via discovery collaborations, as well as a co-discovery and co-development partnership with Lilly. The Company has also entered into combination trials with its lead programme, IMCgp100 in melanoma, with Medimmune and Lilly. Founded in 2008 originally out of Oxford University and headquartered outside Oxford, Immunocore now has more than 180 staff. Immunocore’s current investors are well-renowned, leading international institutions including Woodford Investment Management, Malin Corporation, Eli Lilly and Company, RTW Investments, Fidelity Management & Research Company as well as other private shareholders. For more information, please visit www.immunocore.com

About ImmTACs

Immunocore’s proprietary technology is focused on small protein molecules called ImmTACs (Immune mobilising mTCR Against Cancer) that enable the immune system to recognise and kill cancerous or bacterially/virally infected cells. Immunocore’s ImmTACs, a new class of drug with ultra-high affinity for intracellular cancer targets, are synthetic, soluble T cell receptors (TCRs) that recognise diseased cells containing disease specific targets. The ImmTACs enable circulating T-cells to selectively identify and kill diseased cells. The ImmTAC platform is unique in its high specificity and potency and broad applicability to a wide range of intracellular targets and disease indications. ImmTACs can access up to nine-fold more targets than typical antibody-based therapies, including monoclonal antibodies.

TCRs naturally recognise diseased cells and Immunocore’s world-leading competitive advantage is its ability to engineer high affinity TCRs and link them to an antibody fragment that activates a highly potent and specific T cell response to recognise and destroy cancer cells. The most advanced ImmTAC, IMCgp100, is currently in Phase IIa clinical trials for the treatment of late stage melanoma. Immunocore has a growing internal pipeline of ImmTACs addressing many different cancer types and has developed a broad database of intracellular cancer targets.
ImmTACs can address a significantly larger range of disease indications than currently respond to existing immuno-oncology agents and combine the characteristics of very high potency, encouraging safety and low cost of goods.