

## **Nexigen attracts MIG as new investor for the development of novel cancer therapeutics**

**Bonn, 01 June 2011.** Nexigen GmbH, a biopharmaceutical company closed a financing round totalling 4.1 mio Euro with the participation of new and existing investors. The fresh capital enables Nexigen to reach strategic goals in the development of novel drugs against cancer by 2013:

- preclinical efficacy of drug candidates
- extension of its drug pipeline
- further development of the technology platform for the pharmacological optimization of therapeutic peptides

The drug candidates result from Nexigen's technology platform, which allows the access to so far inaccessible mode of actions of drugs. This enables the development of drugs with novel potentially superior properties and associated important USPs.

Besides AT Newtec GmbH and FCP Biotech GmbH as existing investors MIG funds participated for the first time in the current financing round. The capital of this round shall be used for the further development of Nexigen's lead project in oncology. The goal is to show efficacy in suitable preclinical models. Furthermore an additional project in the area of cancer research, which has been started early in 2011, shall be taken further. Nexigen's technology platform includes screening systems in living cells. These systems allow for the identification of drug precursors under natural conditions in a unique way and feature a high hit rate and the identification of relevant molecules. This results in a significant saving of time and effort during further development. Additional components of the technology platform allow for the efficient optimization of the identified drug precursors. Nexigen develops a novel class of cell-permeable peptide therapeutics for the modulation of disease mechanisms, which are not addressable for common small molecule drugs or therapeutic antibodies.

'I am happy that we could attract MIG, one of the most active biotech VCs in Europe. Very important for us is also the continuous commitment of AT Newtec. The closing of the recent financing round will allow Nexigen to further validate its technologies using its own drug candidates. We expect that Nexigen is able to claim an outstanding position in the young field of cell permeable peptide therapeutics by taking advantage of its innovative technology and the early start', adds Dr Hanjo Hennemann, CEO and co-founder of Nexigen.

"The smart technological approach in combination with the astonishingly high degree of integration of Nexigen's research expertise convinced us" comments Dr. Matthias Kromayer, member of the executive board of MIG Verwaltungs AG. 'We are happy to welcome the Nexigen-team with its entrepreneurial spirit in our portfolio.'

### **About Nexigen GmbH**

Nexigen GmbH was founded in August 2007, obtained its first capital in 2008 und develops peptide therapeutics with novel mode of action for the treatment of cancer. The company aims at so far inaccessible proteins, which are involved in the onset and progression of tumors. Nexigen relies on proprietary and innovative peptide screening technologies in living cells. This allows for the time and cost-efficient access to drug discovery. Currently Nexigen GmbH cooperates with various biotech companies and successfully completed projects with leading pharmaceutical companies.

### **About MIG Verwaltungs AG**

The investment company MIG Verwaltungs AG (MIG) is in charge of the MIG-Fonds, which are designed for private individual investors. MIG Fonds invest in young, non-stock listed companies in the German-speaking region. MIG manages currently more than 500 million Euro. Investment approach and monitoring of the portfolio companies benefit from the entrepreneurial experience of MIG. MIG considers itself not only as an investor but also as a responsible and competent partner. [www.mig.ag](http://www.mig.ag)

### **About AT Newtec GmbH**

AT Newtec GmbH, a company owned by Dr. Andreas und Dr. Thomas Strüngmann, holds shares from various biotech companies. AT Newtec is taken care of by the family office of the brothers Strüngmann who offer by this way their competence and strategic support.

### **For further information please contact us!**

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