Anergis Closes Series B Financing Round Totaling CHF 14.5 Million

- Two U.S.-based family offices join as new investors
- All Series A investors participate in the round

EPALINGES, Switzerland, December 3, 2014 – Anergis, a company developing proprietary ultra-fast allergy vaccines, today announced the closing of a Series B financing round totaling CHF 14.5 million (€ 12.1 million, US$ 15 million). All Series A investors participated in the round together with new private European and U.S.-based investors. The financing was jointly led by existing investors Sunstone Capital, BioMedInvest and Renaissance PME as well as new investor WJFS, Inc. Anergis has so far raised a total of CHF 44 million in private equity, which includes the latest Series B financing round.

The funds will be used to advance Anergis’ birch allergy vaccine AllerT closer to market. The company is currently preparing the Phase III clinical trial program of AllerT. Anergis has already demonstrated the rapid and long-lasting clinical efficacy of AllerT in two subsequent field-based clinical Phase II trials. The funds will also be used to advance the AllerR ragweed allergy program towards clinical testing, as well as to research and discover undisclosed new Contiguous Overlapping Peptide (COP) allergy vaccines.

"Anergis is developing a strong pipeline of long-peptide immunotherapy products which will present highly significant advantages over currently marketed allergen immunotherapy," said Robert Donohue, CEO of WJFS, Inc., "and since the company’s COP platform will allow developing products for additional allergy indications, we believe that Anergis’ portfolio has great potential for establishing a new generation of allergy treatments."

"We are delighted to have attracted new U.S. and European investors, and to have the continued support of existing investors," said Vincent Charlon, CEO of Anergis. "These funds will enable us to reach key value inflection points in completing preparations for the Phase III clinical development of AllerT, and will help us to advance our next compound into the clinic."

"Anergis has made significant progress and has demonstrated AllerT’s enduring field-based clinical efficacy within the past twelve months. This latest financing round is a clear validation of the company’s achievements," added Jacques-François Martin, Chairman of Anergis’ board of directors. "We now look forward to supporting Anergis in reaching its corporate goals, and in successfully conducting the Phase III program of AllerT."

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About Anergis

Anergis SA is a Swiss-based biopharmaceutical company specializing in the discovery and development of novel, proprietary allergy vaccines that target commercially attractive indications. Anergis’ vaccines are based on its IP-protected Contiguous Overlapping Peptide (COP) technology. Allergies are the most prevalent and fastest growing chronic conditions in the industrialized world affecting over 500 million people.

Anergis’ lead-product AllerT, a vaccine to treat birch pollen allergies, is due to enter Phase III clinical development. Two additional vaccine candidates against ragweed pollen allergies (AllerR) and house dust mite allergies (AllerDM) are in preclinical development.

Anergis has raised CHF 44 million from private and institutional investors, including BioMedInvest, Renaissance PME, Sunstone Capital and WJFS, Inc.

About Anergis’ COP Technology

The only curative therapy of allergies available today, known as “desensitization” or “Conventional Allergy Immunotherapy” (AIT), is the process of inducing tolerance to the allergen. It requires 3-5 years of treatment and exposes patients to the risk of serious side effects – in particular immediate (<30 min) anaphylactic reactions – which can be life-threatening. With its ultra-fast desensitization, Anergis is shaping the future of allergy treatment. Anergis’ vaccines are a long peptide immunotherapy solution based on COPs which reproduce the complete amino acid sequence of the allergen in separate synthetic long peptides. COP allergy vaccines are pharmaceutical quality products that provide complete allergen sequences of all T cell epitopes, but do not cross-react with IgE, the antibody class responsible for eliciting allergic hypersensitivity. Therefore, COPs can be administered safely independent of MHC restriction and at high doses to induce tolerance to the allergen after only a few injections. This enables desensitization in 2 months as opposed to 3 years. Studies of COPs targeting bee venom and birch pollen allergies in both animals and humans have demonstrated excellent safety (i.e. no immediate allergic reaction) and immunogenicity (production of specific antibodies and cytokines against the original allergen and establishment of a long-term immune memory).

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