

Company Overview:

StarkAge Therapeutics is a leading biotech company dedicated to revolutionizing cancer treatment by targeting cellular senescence. Our innovative approach focuses on developing therapies that eliminate senescent cells induced by standard cancer treatments, thereby enhancing overall treatment efficacy and patient outcomes.

The Challenge:

Cancer therapies such as chemotherapy and radiotherapy, while effective in killing cancer cells, often induce senescence in the remaining cells. These senescent cells contribute to tumor relapse, resistance to treatment, and poor prognosis. Hallmarks of senescence include cell cycle arrest, secretion of pro-inflammatory factors (SASP), and alterations in the tumor microenvironment, all of which promote cancer progression and immune evasion.

Our Solution:

StarkAge Therapeutics has developed a proprietary platform to identify and target biomarkers specific to senescent cancer cells. Our flagship program, STX-1, utilizes Antibody-Drug Conjugates (ADCs) to selectively target and eliminate these cells. **The result will improve the effectiveness of conventional cancer treatments, reduce side effects such as fibrosis and reduce the risk of metastases.**

Key Innovations:

1. Senescence Biomarkers:

- We have identified DPP4 (CD26) as a key membrane protein overexpressed in senescent cancer cells across various tumor types.
- Our patented monoclonal antibodies against DPP4 are designed to selectively target these cells.

2. Antibody-Drug Conjugates (ADCs):

- ADCs are engineered to deliver cytotoxic drugs directly to senescent cells, minimizing off-target effects and enhancing therapeutic efficacy.
- Our ADCs demonstrate high specificity, stability, and potent antitumor activity, both in vitro and in vivo.

3. Preclinical Validation:

- STX-1 has shown significant antitumor activity in multiple human tumor xenograft models.
- The efficacy of STX-1 has been validated across various cancer cell lines and preclinical models, proving its potential to improve cancer treatment outcomes.

Pipeline and Development:

- **STX-1:** Currently in lead optimization and preclinical validation, with strong efficacy data supporting its progression towards clinical trials.
- **STX-2&3:** A fast follower targeting new senescence-associated biomarkers, expanding our therapeutic arsenal.

Scientific and Management Expertise:

Our team comprises seasoned scientists and industry veterans with extensive experience in oncology, immunology, and drug development. Supported by a robust scientific advisory board, we are well-positioned to advance our innovative therapies through clinical development.

Funding and Milestones:

To accelerate the development of STX-1 and STX-2&3, we seek an investment of €5 million (dilutive & non dilutive). This funding will support the completion of key preclinical studies, optimization of our drug candidates, and toxicology studies in mice, enabling us to reach the pre-IND (Investigational New Drug) stage. This pivotal step will lay the groundwork for regulatory submissions and further clinical development.

Contact Information:

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Visit our website: [StarkAge Therapeutics](https://starkage.com)

By targeting senescence, StarkAge Therapeutics aims to transform the landscape of cancer therapy, offering new hope to patients worldwide.