Company Overview:

StarkAge Therapeutics is a pioneering biotech company dedicated to advancing cancer treatment by specifically targeting cellular senescence. Our unique approach centers on therapies that eliminate senescent cells induced by standard cancer treatments, effectively enhancing treatment outcomes and improving patient prognosis.

The Challenge:

Current cancer therapies such as chemotherapy and radiotherapy, though effective, often induce cellular senescence in the remaining cells. These senescent cells contribute to tumor relapse, treatment resistance, and overall poor prognosis. Hallmarks of senescence include cell cycle arrest, secretion of inflammatory factors (SASP), and changes in the tumor microenvironment that 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 candidate, STX-1, employs an Antibody-Drug Conjugate (ADCs) to selectively target and eliminate senescent cells resulting in the improvement of conventional cancer treatments, the reduction in metastasis and side effects such as fibrosis.

Key Innovations:

1. Senescence Biomarkers:

• StarkAge has identified DPP4 (CD26) as a key membrane protein overexpressed in senescent cancer cells. Our unique, patented antibodies against DPP4 enable highly specific targeting of these cells.

2. Antibody-Drug Conjugates (ADCs):

• Designed for precision, our ADCs deliver cytotoxic agents directly to senescent cells, minimizing off-target effects and enhancing therapeutic efficacy. Preclinical data shows high specificity, stability, antitumor potency, and excellent tolerability with no observed adverse effects in vivo

3. Pipeline Expansion:

• In addition to STX-1, we are advancing STX-2 and additional senescence-associated targets, broadening our therapeutic arsenal against aging-related diseases and cancer.

Pipeline and Development:

- STX-1 (DPP4): Currently in lead optimization with extensive preclinical validation, showing promising efficacy and safety profiles.
- > STX-2 & Future Programs: A pipeline expansion focusing on new senescence-associated biomarkers.

Scientific and Management Expertise:

Our team includes leading scientists and industry experts in oncology, immunology, and drug development. Supported by a highly qualified scientific advisory board, StarkAge is well-prepared to drive these therapies toward clinical stages.

Funding and Milestones:

StarkAge Therapeutics **seeks €3M in Seed funding** (2M€ dilutive + 1M€ non-dilutive) to achieve preclinical milestones and support our pipeline expansion. Additional Series A funding of €15M is anticipated in 2026 to progress STX-1 into clinical development. This funding will advance key studies and toxicology, positioning STX-1 for a pre-IND submission.

Contact Information:

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Visit our website: StarkAge Therapeutics

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

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