

## **Press Release**

## Priavoid closes financing round

Düsseldorf, Germany, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021: Priavoid GmbH closes a Series A financing round in the amount of EUR 7 million. The financing by seed investor Riesner Verwaltungs GmbH and HBG Beteiligungs- und Beratungsgesellschaft mbH & Co. KG allows the company to intensify the development of its drug pipeline.

Priavoid's platform technology was developed by Prof. Dieter Willbold, Chair of Physical Biology at Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf and Director of the Institute of Structural Biochemistry at Forschungszentrum Jülich. It uses mirror-image phage display selection and various optimization technologies to develop compounds consisting exclusively of D-enantiomeric (mirror-image) amino acid residues. The all-D-peptide-platform enables the design of lead compounds against neurodegenerative diseases that are caused by prion-like protein aggregates. The drug candidates exhibit a completely new and highly innovative anti-prionic mechanism of action to specifically dissolve these protein aggregates. The therapeutic focus is on diseases such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's or Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS).

With the investment from Riesner Verwaltungs GmbH and HBG Beteiligungs- und Beratungsgesellschaft mbH & Co. KG, Priavoid is able to intensify and expand research and development for its preclinical drug candidates. "Professor Riesner has been actively supporting the research and development work of the all-D-peptide drug class for years. He is not only an investor and chairman of the supervisory board of Priavoid, but also contributes his experience as co-founder of the biotech companies Qiagen, Evotec and others." said Philipp Bürling, CEO of Priavoid. "This investment in Priavoid's R&D efforts will be a quantum leap to the significance of this new class of compounds." comments Professor Willbold, founder and also member of Priavoid's supervisory board.

The closing of the financing round extends a series of recent structural milestones achieved by Priavoid. In December, it was announced that Nobel Laureate Prof. Stanley Prusiner (UCSF), who is considered the discoverer of prions, has joined Priavoid's supervisory board. In addition, the Federal Agency for Disruptive Innovation (SprinD) announced on Feb. 04, 2021, that it will support the clinical phase II of Priavoid's Alzheimer's program PRI-002 (https://www.sprind.org/en/projects/willbold/).

## **About Priavoid:**

Priavoid GmbH is a drug discovery company that was founded in September 2017 as a spin-off from Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf and Forschungszentrum Jülich. The company develops novel all-D-peptide drug candidates for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, ALS, tauopathies and Huntington's disease. The most advanced candidate is PRI-002 for Alzheimer's disease. All drug candidates are designed for their anti-prionic mode of action. CEO: Philipp Bürling, Supervisory Board: Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Detlev Riesner (Chairman), Nobel Laureate Prof. Dr. Stanley Prusiner, Prof. Dr. Dieter Willbold.

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