# A miRNA-based strategy to impulse regenerative medicine in Diabetes

A new therapeutic approach for regeneration



## Type 1 Diabetes is AN UNMET NEED

**TYPE 1 DIABETES (T1D)** is an autoimmune disease that destroys the beta cells, leading to high blood glucose levels and therefore, metabolic failure.\*\*





\*\* Katsarou, A. et al. (2017) Nat. Rev. Dis. Primers doi:10.1038/nrdp.2017.16

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## **T1D MARKET OPPORTUNITY**













## **Original Stem cells**

### **Enhanced Stem cells**







## Our vision: Long-life restoration of blood glucose control

50µm

Insulin (green); mucin1 (red); nuclei (blue)

• We are intended to be **not only better but different** from our competitors: our novel product, MimoPancreas, is much more than a cluster of cells, but a self-organized tridimensional structure that accomplishes different pancreatic cell types together, working together for a more efficient outcome.

Interestingly enough, MimoPancreas are created from pancreatic progenitors (avoiding concerns about pluripotency of ESCs/IPSCs).

• miR-based technology makes them mature, functional and stable.

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miRNA-exposed pancreatic organoids efficiently generate insulin-producing cells







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UNICYTE AG	Pancreatic islets derived from Human liver stem cells	CEO: Florian Jehle Web: http://www.unicyte.ch/
OSIRIS THERAP.	Prochymal is an adult human mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) product	CEO: Samson Tom, PhD
		Web: http://www.osiris.com/

We have a MITIGATION ALTERNATIVE... miR-based strategy in pancreatic cell regeneration

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## THE TEAM – stem cell biology frontier research





MARIA SALAZAR ROA, PHD PROJECT MANAGER (CNIO)

#### **OTHER TEAM MEMBERS**

- Carolina Villarroya, PhD Junior Postdoc
- Nuria García, PhD student
- Aicha El Bakkali, Technician

CAROLINA POLA, PHD DIRECTOR OF INNOVATION & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AT CNIO

#### **ADVISORS**

Petra Krauledat (CEO at PNPResearch) Peter Bryant (professor at IE Business School) José Luis Cabero (CEO at AELIX) Sotirios Karathanasis (VP at NeoProgen)

#### BASIC AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN CELL CYCLE AND STEM CELL BIOLOGY

GEMMs models, drug discovery projects with small molecules, advanced therapy approaches for cell therapy and organoid development.

#### More than 10 years of experience in technology transfer, scientific communications and innovation

#### SCIENTIFIC APPROACH AND CAPABILITIES

MARCOS MALUMBRES, PHD

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR (CNIO)

Mouse models to study the cell cycle machinery

Mechanisms regulating the cell division cycle and its effects on cell fate, disease and therapy

Function of microRNAs in stem cell biology, regenerative medicine and tumor development

How progenitor cells and cancer stem cells control their self-renewal and proliferative properties

#### **DISCOVERIES AND INNOVATIONS**

Role of CKD4/CDK6 in cancer and disease mouse models

Cell cycle-dependent kinase Plk1 as regulator of vascular homeostasis

PP2-inhibitory kinase MASTL as a potential target for cancer – PoC *in vitro* and *in vivo* and drug discovery campaign ongoing.

Mouse models for miRNAs, with relevant properties in self-renewal and differentiation of stem cells.



easy and suitable methodology



#### ...REVOLUTIONIZING REGENERATIVE THERAPY for Type 1 Diabetes



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- ----- We have **refined the sales pitch**.
- We are working on our **valorisation plan**. Our deadline to finish the document is November 8<sup>th</sup>.
- We are developing **new sets of experiments** on the lab to reinforce the original data. Getting ready to build a solid proof of concept.
- We are starting to set up the *in vivo* experiments, using Diabetes mouse models.
- We are applying to different competitive calls for getting funding and a PhD student to accomplish our PoC.

We are **mentored by three experts** on business, technology transfer, finance and commercialization tools: **Petra Krauledat** (Principal owner and Chief Executive Officer at PNPResearch Corporation; IDEA<sup>2</sup>), **Peter Bryant** (professor of entrepreneurship at IE Business School) **and José Luis Cabero** (life science manager, mentor and advisor- Chief Executive Officer at AELIX Therapeutics). They monitor our work and we have frequent meetings to follow up. We are also mentored by an expert on the field, **Sotirios Karathanasis** (Vice President R&D at NeoProgen).

We are **in conversations with Christopher Mann** (Scientific Regulatory Associate Director in *Asphalion*). Chris and his team are experts on advanced therapies in endocrine diseases, and they are of great value to define the easiest and accessible strategy, in terms of Regulatory.

We are **in conversations with Gustavo Fuster** (European patent Attorney in Hoffmann Eitle). He will help us to reinforce our patent and define the new IP protection, based on this project.

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