

BMT - Research

Incorporated as Limited Liability Corporation (GmbH) on Dec. 28, 2000

Introduction

BMT (Bio Molecular Therapeutics) is a research organization with a staff of more than fifty - among them a significant number of top international researchers. As a joint venture between **Novartis**, **Baxter** and other industrial and academic partners, BMT not only receives substantial funding (in-kind and cash) from pharmaceutical industry, but also contributes from the intellectual power of outstanding scientists from renowned academic institutes.

Mission

BMT's mission is to identify genes and gene products involved in **host defense** at the molecular level and to develop novel therapeutic or diagnostic strategies.

BMT elucidates modulation of host defense mechanisms responsible for inflammatory and autoimmune diseases. The major disease areas in which BMT is conducting research are **atherosclerosis**, **rheumatoid arthritis** and certain forms of **allergies**.

Portfolio

A battery of proprietary technologies, genes and gene products are at hand to modulate the inflammation process. The latter are specifically expressed in **leucocytes** and cells of the **vascular system** during host defense reactions.

An impressive example of BMT's research achievements is a mouse model for transgenic and **knock-out technologies** to over express or delete genes and to prove their functional relevance in vivo.

BMT has also developed an in vivo **delivery system** as carrier for recombinant proteins. Together with the respective chemical and biological blockers thereof this approach is a promising attempt to prove the efficacy of new therapeutics.

Patent Pipeline

BMT has already filed a series of patent applications. Examples comprise a screening technology to specifically identify new transcription factors, and a new gene (CDw92) that is specifically regulated in dendritic cells and that seems to modulate the function of leucocytes.

Current Funding

For years 2000 and 2001 BMT has received EUR 5,4 million from funding institutions and commercial partners). According to current agreements BMT will receive additional funding of EUR 6,7 million until the end of year 2003. Starting in 2002, BMT envisions to generate sales from the commercialization of its intellectual property rights.

Portfolio Management

BMT has a strong commitment to generate biotech innovations for exploitation and commercialization. To reach this goal, BMT has recently incorporated a licensing and development unit to manage output and speed of technology development.

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