

PRESS RELEASE

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BioLamina and partners aim to develop new methods to differentiate unlimited amounts of NK-cells to fight cancer

BioLamina's products have been successfully used to generate dopaminergic cells, cardiomyocytes as well as many other cell types. BioLamina AB (Sweden) now takes on a new challenge – to generate natural killer (NK) cells that can potentially be used to fight different types of cancer.

BioLamina develops and produces high quality reagents supporting the global stem cell research community in its endeavour to cultivate fully functional cells *in vitro* and to develop various cell therapies. BioLamina's best-selling product, the human recombinant laminin 521 substrate, has solved many process-related issues in therapeutic cell manufacturing, such as low cell quality and yield, thus proving its value to researcher and manufacturer alike.

Now BioLamina's expertise with laminin technologies will be used to differentiate stem cells into NK-cells, which are then further manipulated to form CAR-NKs. The CAR-NKs are predicted to be safer to patients, and potentially even more efficient in treating some forms of cancer than the current "star" of the proverbial cell therapy sky, the CAR-T cell. CAR-T cells have significantly increased the prognosis for cancer patients, with two approved therapies in Europe alone. With success, the stem cell-derived CAR-NKs borne of this collaborative effort could prove to be another game-changer in the field of cancer therapeutics.

Together with Rheincell Therapeutics and the University Clinic in Düsseldorf (Universitätsklinikum Düsseldorf), over the next two years BioLamina will develop methods to differentiate NK cells supported by a grant of 12 MSEK from Swedish Vinnova and German ZIM.

"The three partners complement each other and have great knowledge of primary cell culture and NK cells," says Kristian Tryggvason, CEO of BioLamina. He continues: *"I hope that we will be able to develop and validate a protocol to ensure an unlimited source of allogeneic NK cells to fight cancer".*

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ABOUT BIOLAMINA AB

BioLamina commercializes innovations based on research from the Karl Tryggvason laboratory at Karolinska Institute and Duke-NUS, solving technical problems within culturing of embryonic stem cells and other types of primary cells. Many of the products manufactured and sold by BioLamina are based on human recombinant proteins called laminins. The laminins provide cells with an environment mimicking their natural location in the cell culture dish. Different laminin isoforms are expressed in different tissues in the body, hence many different cell types can thrive on laminins. Laminins and other innovations together solve many of the technical problems in research such as reproducibility and low cell quality and therefore help the development of new cell therapies. BioLamina was founded in 2009.

For more information: www.biolamina.com

