

Eporgen Venture: A story of success and growth

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Eporgen





Venture

What is Eporgen

- A unique story of **product, process** and **cultural innovation**
 - **Product innovation:** 19 patents
 - **Process innovation:** 11 legally independent start-ups that are managed centrally as 11 projects and benefit from synergies and economies of scale
 - **Cultural innovation:** a combination of a VC, an incubator and a pharma company, financed by private investors, with a strong ethical dimension and sense of regional belonging

- A portfolio of **11 early stage life sciences assets**, most of them reached partnering stage

Technologies portfolio

| | | DEVELOPMENT | VALIDATION | MARKET | |
|---|--|-------------|------------|--------|--------------------|
|  | Eco-friendly anti-fouling paints | ▶ | | | Partnership |
|  <small>Advanced Platforms for Molecular Biology</small> | Single cell electroporation | ▶ | | | |
|  | Diagnosis and therapy of autoimmune diseases | ▶ | | | Partnership |
|  | Rapid and non-invasive test for early identification of dental caries | ▶ | | | |

Highlights of selected assets in oncology

- **Genovax:** Novel approach to cancer therapy with innovative use of tolerogenic therapeutic vaccines and vaccination adjuvants. Close to complete a Phase 1 study in prostate and renal cancer patients with a mixture of telomerase-derived peptides and adjuvants.
- **Bionucleon:** Novel anti-tumour agents (aptamers, suitably modified oligonucleotides) which are targeting the N-terminal PWWP domain of the HDGF family of proteins. Potential applications include neuroblastoma, but also NSCLC and hepatocarcinoma. Lead compound targets HRP3 (one of the HDGF proteins) and inhibits angiogenesis. Significant increase of the activity of vincristine was demonstrated in animal models of neuroblastoma.

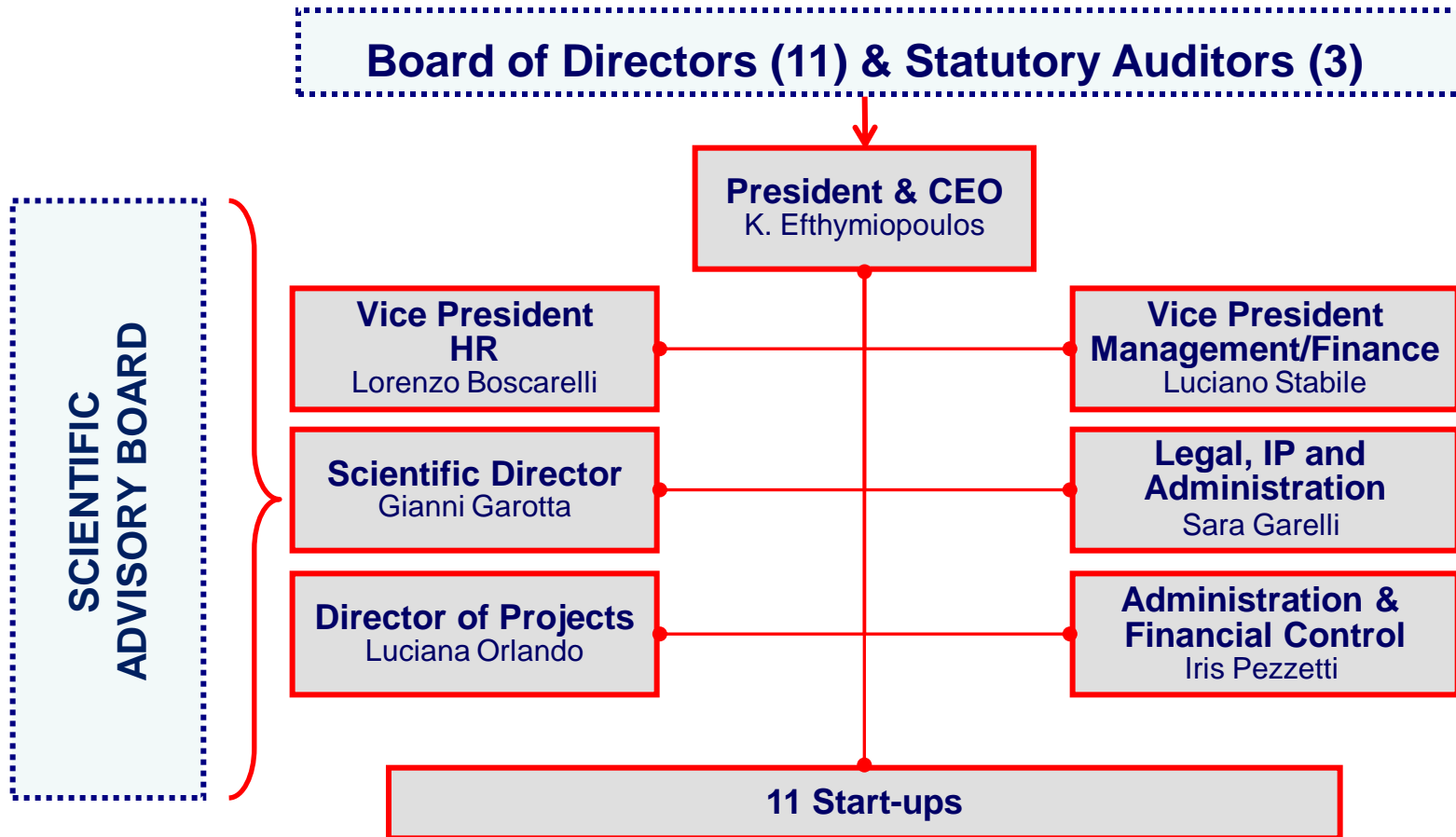
Highlights of selected assets in infectious and cardiovascular diseases

- **Spider:** Novel class of antibiotic lipopeptides that are effective against antibiotic resistant Gram-negative bacteria and that work via a mechanism that is less likely to develop bacterial resistance; potential for treatment of nosocomial infections and against biofilms. A novel class of antiviral lipopeptides for the topical treatment of skin and vaginal lesions resulting from herpes simplex infections. Animal proof of concept studies close to completion.
- **Target Heart:** Discovered melusin, a protein found specifically in striated muscles and in myocardium. Activated melusin leads to a compensatory cardiac hypertrophy which results in increased strength of the heartbeat and allows the heart to withstand the excessive workload. Recombinant melusin showed efficacy in animal proof of concept studies of heart failure. Potential applications also in pulmonary arterial hypertension.

Highlights of selected assets in immunology

- **Genovax:** Novel approach to autoimmune diseases therapy with innovative use of tolerogenic therapeutic vaccines. A proof-of-concept in animal models of SLE was obtained with a tolerogenic gene product constituted by a Consensus peptide-Fc immunoglobulin chimera.
- **Notopharm:** Discovery of IFI16's potential as a molecular marker for the diagnosis and prognosis of autoimmune disorders, with specific applications in scleroderma and SLE. A diagnostic kit based on anti-IFI16 Ab significantly improved the success of diagnosis of scleroderma and is currently in late stages of development (CE mark), with commercialization planned early in 2012. A diagnostic kit for the presence of IFI16 as a prognostic marker is in earlier development stages.

Organisational Structure



A story of success and growth

- Commenced operations in 2005
- Grew portfolio of companies from 5 to 11 (university spin-offs)
- Increased capital invested from €3m to €8.5m in 4 rounds
- Doubled investor base from 40 to 83 (one institutional)
- Received more than €1m in grants
- Lean structure with about 30 staff
- Now ready for the first transactions



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