



# BIOVIAN

Press Release, 17 May 2021

## **Tenboron Ltd signs an agreement with Biovian for GMP contract manufacturing of a novel boron carrier for treating solid tumors**

**Tenboron Ltd, the developer of a novel boron carrier for use in Boron Neutron Capture Therapy (BNCT), has selected Biovian Oy as a CDMO partner for GMP manufacturing of their drug candidate for phase I clinical studies. The next generation boron carrier is designed to improve biochemically targeted radiation therapy of locally invasive malignant tumors, including head and neck cancers.**

The agreement covers technical transfer, analytical method validation and GMP manufacturing of boron carriers at Biovian's facility in Turku, Finland. Aseptic filling and stability studies are also covered under the service agreement. Tenboron's boron carrier has a high number of boron atoms (isotope-10B) that are chemically linked to an antibody targeting unit, which specifically directs the carrier to the cancerous cells. Thus, the boron-containing drug is administered directly into the cancerous tumor and is then activated by external neutron radiation. The short-range radiation leads to targeted cancer cell killing precisely at the site of boron accumulation.

BNCT with Tenboron's boron carrier is expected to provide many advantages over conventional methods of radiation therapy, chemotherapy and surgery – the treatment is administered only once, it is non-invasive and it has minimal effects on healthy tissues. Phase I clinical studies are expected to start in the summer of 2022.

### **Juha Jouhki, CEO of Tenboron Ltd:**

*We are very proud of getting closer to starting human trials with our novel boron carrier-based medicine. Selecting Biovian as a CDMO partner is an important step in reaching that milestone. I am confident that Biovian, which has extensive experience in biopharmaceutical manufacturing, will help us meet our project goals.*

### **Knut Ringbom, CEO of Biovian:**

*We are very pleased that Tenboron has selected us as a partner for GMP manufacturing of their novel molecule. The service agreement that covers production, purification, filling and labeling is a good example of our One-Stop-Shop concept, where multiple services are provided under the same roof.*

### **About Tenboron Ltd**

Tenboron Ltd is a Helsinki-based pharmaceutical company. Founded in 2010, the privately held company has developed a novel boron delivery agent to help fight cancer together with the already proven BNCT treatment. BNCT has already shown remarkable efficiency in treating terminal stage head and neck cancer patients. In several studies the response rate of patients treated for recurrent disease has been between 60 and 80 %. Some patients (15% in one study) have been long term survivors and most probably cured. The company is looking forward to entering the first clinical trials with the optimized boron carrier in 2022. Additional information is available at: <https://tenboron.fi/>

## **About Biovian**

Biovian is a Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization, CDMO, that provides premium services to biotech companies developing innovative gene therapies or biopharmaceuticals. The goal of the company is to turn ideas into products by taking client projects from the laboratory bench to the clinic. Biovian offers its clients One-Stop-Shop GMP CDMO services, with modularity available from gene to finished vial. Biovian is especially focusing on Viral Vector production, microbial production of recombinant proteins and GMP plasmid DNA. Guided by its Nordic ethos, Biovian has established a reputation for delivering high-quality work on time and within budget to a global client base. Additional information is available at: <https://biovian.com/>