

Factsheet

Acronym InnoCAR-T

Full title Innovative design and implementation of next-generation Point-of-Care CAR-T

Programme HORIZON TMA MSCA Doctoral Networks

Contract number 101072861

Abstract InnoCAR-T is a Doctoral Network designed to provide training and carry out breakthrough research on the high impact field of Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T cell immunotherapy in a carefully integrated academic and inter-sectoral programme.

We aim to develop next-generation CAR-T therapy and deliver a set of young researchers uniquely qualified for a career in academia and/or industry. CAR-T cell therapy represents a revolutionary advance in oncology, particularly for B cell lymphoma patients. However, long-term response is still restricted to ~50% of patients, with resistance being even more prominent in other cancers. Thus, additional innovations to overcome resistance are needed to improve CAR-T responses. Unfortunately, the currently centralized production of CAR-T hampers rapid innovation and associates with prohibitive costs, long vein to-vein time, and poor carbon footprint due to inter-continental delivery.

InnoCAR-T aims to use innovative academic and industrial concepts to address these issues by 1. developing innovative manufacturing solutions for CAR-T production at local academic hospitals and 2. developing the next-generation of more effective CAR-Ts. At the core of InnoCAR-T is its training objective to offer a cutting-edge multidisciplinary training programme. Herewith, outstanding young scientists can generate breakthrough ideas and assume leading positions in academia and industry. The training programme includes an array of disciplines, ranging from biomedical sciences (e.g. immunology, CAR engineering, gene-editing), physical sciences to mechanical engineering.

Industrial partners are central to the programme and provide pivotal expertise on how to translate scientific discoveries into commercial reality. Inter-sectoral partners will host Doctoral Candidates, provide key secondments and networkwide training events. Further, InnoCAR-T will foster long-term multidisciplinary research and bilateral co-operations between academia and industry.

Duration 48 months (01/01/2023 – 31/12/2026)

Project funding 2,618,856.00 €

Coordinator Prof. Edwin Bremer
Academisch Ziekenhuis Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands
Email: e.bremer@umcg.nl

- Partners**
- Academisch Ziekenhuis Groningen, Netherlands
 - Universiteit Gent (UGent), Belgium
 - Scinus Cell Expansion Netherlands B.V. (SCE), Netherlands
 - Fundacio Clinic per a la Recerca Biomedica (FCRB), Spain
 - Integra Therapeutics S.L. (ITX), Spain

Website www.innocar-t.eu

