

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Evercyte collaborates with Boehringer Ingelheim to investigate extracellular vesicles as a novel approach for next generation therapeutics**

**Vienna, Austria, Feb 12, 2019** / -- [Evercyte GmbH](#), the leading provider of immortalized human primary-like cells and Boehringer Ingelheim start a collaboration in the field of extracellular vesicles (EVs) with the aim of developing EVs as a novel delivery and therapeutic technology for Boehringer Ingelheim's key therapy areas.

EVs are cell-derived membraneous structures released by most cell types into the circulation and represent an important way of intercellular communication. When taken up by recipient cells, they alter the behavior of these cells depending on their respective cargo. In mouse models, EVs secreted by stem cells have shown therapeutic potential in diseases like stroke, myocardial infarction or osteoarthritis. Further to that, EVs can be engineered for the delivery of specific therapeutic cargoes, such as oligonucleotides, small molecules, proteins, or for specific targeting of defined tissues. The collaboration will address basic questions on how EVs travel to specific tissues to create new opportunities for the development of next generation therapy approaches.

"Evercyte's telomerized human cell lines have been in use as in vitro test systems in pharma and cosmetic industries as well as in academia for more than 6 years. Our collaboration with Boehringer Ingelheim will enable us to achieve a deeper understanding of EV biology using various telomerized cells as factories for EV production. This is aligned with Evercyte's strategy to establish human production cell lines with primary cell-like characteristics and complements our efforts to develop rigorous quality control systems for generating and banking cells according to GCCP standards", said Dr. Regina Grillari, CTO of Evercyte. "The data generated within this collaboration are an important first step into the direction of developing EV based therapeutics for patients."

#### **About [Evercyte](#)**

Evercyte is the leading provider and producer of immortalized human primary-like cells as well as urine derived induced pluripotent stem cells. It also offers customer-tailored cell line development including tissue sourcing, establishing of immortalized cells and gene editing services. Evercyte is the CRO of choice for innovative cell-based assays in the field of preclinical development and in toxicology as well.

The core technology used for the establishment of these highly relevant human cell lines relies on the reactivation of the human telomerase enzyme using hTERT. Similarly, Evercyte is the premier company to produce induced pluripotent stem cells out of human urine as a fully non-invasive source of cells.

Founded in 2011, the Vienna-based company successfully offers tools and the know-how necessary for the establishment of standardized high-throughput target identification and drug screening strategies, for toxicity studies, or for efficacy testing from statistically relevant numbers of donors. In addition, Evercyte now also focuses on using telomerized cells as cell factories. Visit us at [www.evercyte.com](http://www.evercyte.com)

**Contact Evercyte**

Dr. Regina Grillari

CTO

Muthgasse 18

A-1190 Vienna

+43 699 10 709 401

[office@evercyte.com](mailto:office@evercyte.com)