

## Betagenon awarded a highly competitive EU grant of € 1,8 million to bring AMPK activator O304 closer to the market

*Betagenon has received a grant of € 1,8 million from the EU's research and innovation framework program Horizon 2020 to close the gap to the market of AMPK activator O304.*

### **About AMP Activated Protein Kinase (AMPK)**

AMPK is master regulator of energy balance both at the single cell and whole organism level. When activated by energy shortage AMPK restores energy balance by suppressing anabolic processes and by increasing glucose and lipid metabolism, as well as blood flow to deliver nutrients to target tissues. AMPK activity declines with aging, obesity and inactivity. Pharmacological activation of AMPK is therefore a promising approach to prevent/cure obesity, fatty liver, T2D and cardiovascular disease caused by or associated with energy imbalance.

### **About O304**

O304 is a novel first-in-class AMPK activator. In animal models O304 protects against diet-induced obesity, fatty liver, insulin resistance,  $\beta$ -cell dysfunction, glucose intolerance, hyperlipidemia and diabetes. O304 also increases left ventricle stroke volume, cardiac output, peripheral blood flow and endurance ("Exercise mimetic"). O304 is the first AMPK activator to reach a Phase 2a proof-of-concept clinical study, and a single-centre, randomised, parallel-group, double-blinded, placebo controlled Phase IIa study (TELLUS) of O304 in subjects with T2D, monitoring metabolic and cardiovascular endpoints has been initiated.

"We are delighted and encouraged that EU's Horizon 2020 program has invested in our efforts to bring AMPK activator O304 to the market. This investment confirms Betagenon's position as global leader in the AMPK activator field and in developing novel innovative treatments for obesity, type 2 diabetes and associated cardiovascular disease, major diseases having detrimental effects on billions of individuals and increasing at an alarming rate globally" says Thomas Edlund, CEO of Betagenon AB.

Betagenon's EU application has been coordinated by **GAEU Consulting AB** and received an outstanding score 14,64 out of 15 in the EU evaluation, and the implementation section was regarded as perfect.

### **Horizon 2020 in brief**

Horizon 2020 is the EU's framework program for research and innovation. The program is the world's largest investment in research and innovation and has a total budget of around € 80 billion (2014-2020). The aim is to ensure the EU's global competitiveness. For more on Horizon 2020, see: <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/>.

**Betagenon AB** is a privately owned Swedish Biotechnology company.

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