

Hearing loss company Acousia Therapeutics to receive CTA for first-in-man clinical study of ACOU085

Tübingen, Germany, December 15, 2021

Acousia Therapeutics GmbH has been granted CTA (Clinical Trial Authorization) by the German BfArM (Federal Institute for Drugs and Medical Devices) for the first-in-man clinical trial of its proprietary investigational small molecule drug, ACOU085. The study will commence in January 2022, and will include patients with mild to moderate age-related hearing loss.

“This marks an important milestone along our visionary roadmap to enable drug-based treatment of different forms of hearing loss,” said Chief Executive Officer Tim Bölke.

Professor Hubert Löwenheim, Chair of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery of the University of Tübingen and Acousia Therapeutics co-founder added: “Hearing loss is the most prevalent sensory disorder, that negatively affects communication, social interaction, and quality of life. Hearing loss is the leading cause of disability in the elderly. Furthermore, hearing loss is increasingly recognized as the single most important risk factor for developing early dementia.”

“ACOU085 is under development as a first-line treatment for patients in need of immediate, high, local drug exposure to help preserve their hearing,” said Chief Development Officer Jonas Dyhrfeld-Johnsen. “Based on a unique mechanism of action that modulates the activity of outer sensory hair cells, we will explore how feasible it is to measure acute target engagement while validating the expected strong safety profile of ACOU085.”

Acousia Therapeutics GmbH is developing a series of small molecule drug candidates for local and systemic treatment of different forms of hearing loss. While the start of the first ACOU085 clinical study in patients with age-related hearing loss is scheduled for January, 2022, next generation drug candidates are being thoroughly characterized in a range of both specialized and standard preclinical models and assays.

About Acousia Therapeutics GmbH

Privately-held Acousia Therapeutics GmbH is based in Tübingen, Germany. The company is dedicated to the identification and development of small molecules for effective prevention and treatment of different etiologies of hearing loss. Acousia develops drugs for local and systemic applications. The company was founded in 2012 by three partners: Prof. Dr. Hubert Löwenheim (Professor and Chair, Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery, University Tübingen), EMC Microcollections GmbH (EMC), and Boehringer Ingelheim Venture Fund GmbH (BIVF), followed by Axxam, Bregua, Creathor, KfW, and LBBW-Venture in later financing rounds.