PRESS RELEASE

€ 40 million HEMATOLOGY PROJECT AIMS FOR FASTER, BETTER CARE FOR PATIENTS WITH BLOOD DISEASES

Brussels/Salamanca, January 9, 2017. **Patients struggling with blood disorders may look forward to more rapid and efficient treatment from the outcomes of the HARMONY project, an initiative that aims to create a roadmap for better access and care for patients with various blood diseases with the use of big data.**

Made up of 51 partners from 11 European countries, including 7 pharmaceutical companies, HARMONY will put together anonymous patient data to unlock valuable knowledge on multiple myeloma (MM), acute myeloid leukemia (AML), acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL), chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL), non-Hodgkins lymphoma (NHL), myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) and blood disorders in infants and children.

HARMONY will build on pre-existing, long-lasting collaborations between academics, clinicians, patient organizations and the pharmaceutical industry. It shall further advance management of these diseases through a more efficient process of treatment development and rapid decision-making. The expected outcome will be better prognosis and quicker improved treatment decisions.

The project brings together key players in the clinical, academic, patient, HTA (health technology assessment), regulatory, economical, ethical and pharmaceutical fields to:

• Developing a data sharing platform that empowers clinicians and policy stakeholders to improve decision-making
• Establishing a network reflecting the European HMs landscape
• Defining clinical endpoints and standard outcomes in ALL (paediatric & adult), NHL, MM, AML, CLL, MDS
• Alignment of key stakeholders on relevance of these outcomes (policy makers, payers, patients)
• Providing means for analysing complex data sets comprising different layers of information
• Identifying specific markers for early registration of innovative and effective therapies for HMs

The HARMONY project's final deliverable is a big data platform that will integrate disease information in order to better understand the diseases and how to treat most efficiently. HARMONY will achieve this from a pan-European perspective by uniting and aligning European stakeholders and key opinion leaders in the field. The 5-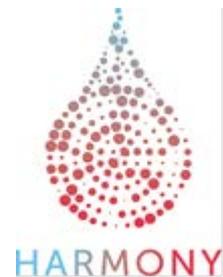year project will start in January 2017 and is funded through the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI); Europe's largest public-private initiative aiming to speed up the development of better and safer medicines for patients.

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Partners in HARMONY

Project management
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Instituto de Investigación Sanitaria del Hospital La Fe de Valencia (HULAFE), Spain
Celgene International II SARL, Switzerland
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Partners
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ELN Foundation (ELN), Germany*
GMV Soluciones Globales Internet S.A.U. (GMV), Spain*
European Alliance for Personalised Medicine (EAPM), Belgium
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University of Navarra (UNAV), Spain
Università degli Studi di Torino (UNITO), Italy
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Goethe University Frankfurt (GUF), Germany
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Jose Carreras Leukaemia Research Institute (IJC), Spain
European Research Initiative on CLL e.v. (ERIC), Italy
Masaryk University (MU), Czech Republic
Fundacio privada Institut D'investigacio Oncologica de Vall-Hebron (VHIO), Spain
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European Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT), The Netherlands
Flanders Institute of Biotechnology (VIB), Belgium
University of Helsinki (UH), Finland
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MediSapiens Ltd (MS), Finland
MLL Munich Leukemia Laboratory GmbH (MLL), Germany
LeukaNET (LeNET), Germany*
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Work package leaders and co-leaders