

10 December 2020

Dear Fellow Investigator,

The **BIOGNOSYS GRANT PROGRAM** is an initiative that supports clinical stage research on complex diseases, which represent an unmet medical need, by enabling direct and actionable insights into the disease phenotype using proteomics.

This year, Biognosys has recognized the unmet need to better understand the disease pathology behind **non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD)**, its more progressive form known as **non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH)** and the follow-up complications like **liver cirrhosis** and **hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)**. This highly intricate condition which affects 25 % people worldwide bears additional risks such as the development of cardiovascular diseases and is predicted by the WHO to become the primary cause of liver transplant in the near future.

Due to the extreme complexity of this disease caused by various metabolic, inflammatory, and genetic traits, it is therefore not surprising that up until now, no approved pharmacological treatment options exist for NAFLD patients. Moreover, currently developed predictive and prognostic circulating biomarkers as well as molecular surrogate endpoints for efficient trial assessments are not always sufficient making liver biopsy still a gold standard.

The need for therapeutic solutions for this global epidemic is reflected by more than 300 active interventional and observational NAFLD or NASH clinical trials (as of November 2020). Still, despite this huge effort from investigators and the pharmaceutical industry, not all attempts for intervention are successful and can lead to failures at late stages of development due to gaps in disease understanding and lack of proper actionable biomarkers. Ultimately, taking away the hopes of millions of patients for improvement in life quality or even full recovery.

Biognosys recognizes this unmet need and believes that the complexity of NAFLD requires novel approaches offered by precision medicine. We believe that by looking at the proteomic phenotype we can support clinical programs with precise and dynamic information about each patient and provide a global and detailed picture of disease mechanism.

If like us, you believe it is time for functional proteomics and precision medicine, to improve lives of NAFLD patients, please apply to the Biognosys Grant Program.

More details about the Program can be found on our [website](#).

Yours faithfully,



Dr. Oliver Rinner
Chief Executive Officer



Dr. Kristina Beeler
Head of Business Development