



Adagene Announces Collaboration for Discovery of Novel CAR-T with the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute at the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

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SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 7, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Adagene, Inc., an innovative antibody discovery and engineering company, today announced a collaboration with Dr. Richard Childs, Chief of the Laboratory of Transplantation Immunotherapy at the National, Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health, to discover antibodies targeting a novel antigen expressed on the surface of tumor cells. Dr. Childs's laboratory will convert these antibodies into a CAR-T, as they work to develop a non-major histocompatibility complex (MHC) restricted immunotherapy approach to targeting an endogenous retrovirus with tumor-restricted expression.

"We are very pleased to be collaborating with such an expert in the field of clinical cancer biology," said Peter Luo, CEO of Adagene. "At Adagene, our goal is to translate innovation and scientific research into life-saving medications. It is incredibly rewarding to have the opportunity to leverage our proprietary Dynamic Precision Library to develop antibodies against a disease with such highly unmet medical need."

"Adagene has gone to great lengths to develop our leading antigen display technology," said Felix Du, Head of Technology Development at Adagene. "With our unique combination of antigen presentation technologies and having a very large, diverse and fully human antibody discovery library we were able to find the first antibodies targeting non-MHC restricted surface-expressed antigens against this class of challenging cancer targets."

About Adagene

Adagene (Suzhou, China and San Francisco, California) is a clinical stage biotech company with innovative antibody discovery and engineering technologies. By utilizing its proprietary Dynamic Precision Library Platform (DPL), Adagene is showcasing its exceptional antibody engineering capabilities by building franchises of products that are second and third-generation antibodies.

The company's management team is composed of industry veterans with proven track record in therapeutic antibody R&D. Adagene is backed by top notch global venture funds such as F-Prime Capital Partners, Eight Roads Ventures, Wuxi Pharmatech Healthcare Fund I L.P., GP Healthcare Capital, New World TMT Ltd and Sequoia China. The company has raised over \$85 million through its series A to C financing.

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