

# Tibotec-Virco Virology

## 1) Organization details

Tibotec-Virco Virology BVBA, a member of the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) Company, is a pharmaceutical research and development company. The original mission of Tibotec was the discovery of new drug candidates in the field of HIV/AIDS. A unique and powerful cell-based HIV drug discovery platform was developed that enabled the screening of thousands of chemical compounds for activity against both HIV and cellular toxicity.

The companies' current mission is to become a world leader in the discovery and development of innovative and superior therapeutic solutions for viral and infectious diseases of high unmet medical need. Tibotec-Virco is committed to improve medical care and quality of life for patients.

Recognized as one of the companies at the forefront of HIV research, Tibotec has several antiretroviral compounds in clinical development. The company also has an antituberculosis compound and 2 anti-HCV compounds in development and several active discovery programs in HIV, hepatitis C virus, and other life-threatening infectious diseases (incl. bacteria and other RNA viruses).

At the main R&D facility in Mechelen, over 100 research scientists are at work in state-of-the-art laboratories to achieve the goals. The group includes virologists, medicinal chemists, molecular biologists and experts in bioinformatics, and is continuing to expand. The multidisciplinary drug development team of over 200 professionals, including physicians, virologists, toxicologists, statisticians, data managers, experts in chemistry & pharmaceuticals, regulatory affairs, and project management, is dedicated to developing innovative new compounds that will rapidly become available to patients. As a research-based biotechnology company Tibotec-Virco BVBA applies the most advanced technologies in molecular biology, virology, genomics, robotics and electronic data processing to improve the development, the diagnosis and the management of infectious diseases and to reach the above-mentioned mission.

## 2) Expertise / commitments offered

Keywords: Anti-infective R&D

Description expertise:

- High Throughput Screening (HTS) assay development
- Hit-Leads Medicinal Chemistry
- ADME
- PK/PD analysis

Commitment offered: Research

Call topics: FP7-HEALTH-INFLUENZA

### 3) Expectations

Term commitment: Medium (1-3 years)

Ideally, the project should result in at least one new class of compound(s) that have been proven to possess the ideal properties and characteristics for being considered for further preclinical development. Hereby aspects such as the mode of action, the structural information and understanding/ improving the genetic barrier will need to be addressed.

Tibotec-Virco Virology expects the project will result in:

- Potential partnerships within EU for compound optimization with the view to take the compounds further in drug development.
- The establishment of a new HTS screening platform
- The identification of novel targets/biology for various discovery programs
- Improved knowledge and understanding of the selected Influenza target(s)