

INNOVATION TRACK SHORT COURSE 2020 – CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

BIOENGINEERING & MEDTECH AGAINST CANCER PITCH ELEVATOR SESSION (TOHEALTH)

Key words: oncology, international, healthcare education, pitch elevator, project, early stage, interdisciplinary, entrepreneurs, bioengineering, MedTech, liquid biopsy, targeted drug delivery, tumor on chip, organoid, mechanobiology, Car-T therapy, microfluidic.

The ToHealth Short Course 2020 program aims to boost the international projection of oncology research projects and to facilitate transfer to society. The short course is expected to encourage impactful entrepreneurship that takes a predictive, preventative, personalized and participatory approach to medicine.

I. Context and strategic issues

To meet the challenges in healthcare of the 21st century, it is important to combine bioengineering and MedTech to develop biological systems and analyze and treat specifically cancer, while protecting the overall health of the patient by limiting side effects. To accomplish this, we promote an innovation model where scientists, engineers and doctors work in close collaboration.

In this framework, the digital oncology short course will take place the **24th and 25th of November 2020** in collaboration with the European cluster BioCat. During the afternoon of the second day, 12 selected startups and project leaders will have the chance to present their projects in front of a jury of multidisciplinary experts: industrialists, academics and investors. This is a real opportunity to have constructive feedback about regulatory aspects, business plan, market access and IP protection.

Moreover, the selected startups and project leaders will benefit from pitch training before the pitch elevator session (25th of November) by our European experts.

II. Call for expression of interest

Medicen Paris Region and BioCat have decided, in the context of the digital oncology short course, to launch a call for expression of interest for a pitch elevator session. The objective is to identify and federate international actors of the oncology field to pitch their innovations in front of renowned experts.

The presented project of this pitch elevator session will aim to highlight international progress in oncology using innovative technologies and promote an interdisciplinary approach through the following development axes:

- Bioengineering and Medtech can provide solutions to increase prevalence in cancer and related healthcare costs;
- Technologies such as liquid biopsies, targeted drug delivery, tumor on chip, mechanobiology and Car-T therapies have the potential to change the current paradigm of cancer diagnosis and prognosis;

- This revolution will only be possible with the support of a multidisciplinary convergence of technologies and the synergic dialogue between researchers, clinicians, companies and patients;
- Any of this will be achieved without the implication of all stakeholders, so to ensure that these technologies are effective, safe and accepted by patients, their families and caregivers and healthcare professionals;
- Targeting tumor mechanical properties is a novel therapeutical strategy against cancer;
- Developments in microfluidic cell culture technology have led to the generation of human organs-on-chips for cancer drug testing and disease modeling;
- Liquid biopsies have the potential to dramatically improve the diagnosis and prognosis of cancer;
- Advanced drug delivery strategies are being developed for chemotherapy with high efficacy and low side effects.

(non-exhaustive list)

To sum up:

-  Who? Startups, potential entrepreneurs (at the proof of concept stage) and project holders
-  Oncology field
-  When? Application before **Friday 18th of October 2020**.
-  How? Apply at this [link](#).

📅 Schedule :

1. Application to the call for expression of interest before **Friday 2nd of October 2020**.
2. Evaluation of the proposals by Medicen Paris Region, IBEC and Biocat and selection of 12 projects.
3. Communication of the project selected for the pitch **Friday 23th of October 2020**.
4. Pitch in front of an expert panel: **Wednesday 25th of November 2020**.

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