

SIMICA

THERAPEUTIC SITE-SELECTIVE
PROTEIN-MODIFICATION CHEMISTRIES



Newsletter X

Feb 2023

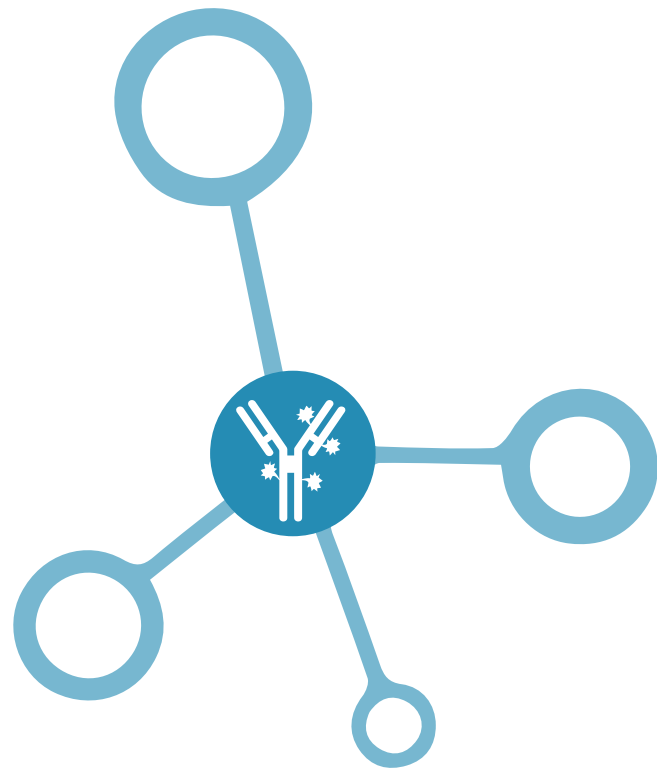


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OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

The SIMICA Project intends to place the Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes within the core of a European network of laboratories that seeks to produce cutting-edge research in the field of site-selective protein modification.



Did you know that:

The total private budget for R&D in Portugal reached a maximum of 3609 million euros in 2021, according to the results of IPCTN (National Scientific and Technological Potential Survey). That's 373 million euros more than the previous year and corresponds to 1.68% of the GDP.

BASI - an example to follow

BASI is a leading privately-owned Portuguese Pharmaceutical company, which initiated its activity in 1956, dedicated to the development, manufacture and marketing of medicines and other health products. In 2007, BASI

suffered a profound reorganization and implemented a new strategic plan to shape the company's businesses and portfolio.

In the last years the company solidified its position with the construction of a new Unit for Development and Manufacture of oral liquids and semi-solids with a capacity to produce about 45 millions of units/year. At same time, a new Quality Control Unit, employing cutting edge technology, was created in order to improve their offer of high quality products.

Today, BASI offers more than 200 different therapeutic drugs meeting the highest standards of quality. The company has more than 270 employees with a global presence and has activities in more than 60 countries and 4 continents. Additionally, the pharmaceutical company is part of the FHC Group, one of the most relevant business groups in the pharmaceutical sector in Portugal, with multinational activity and with more than 600 employees in companies located in Portugal, Spain and several African countries.

Meet the SIMICA Partners

With more than 16 year of experience in the Pharmaceutical Industry, Catarina Cardoso has started her career in Infarmed, the Government agency that evaluates, authorises, regulates and controls human medicines in Portugal. In 2006 Catarina founded Phagecon, a company dedicated to providing quality and excellency services to the pharmaceutical industry. With experience in business process and operational activities, Catarina has expertise in all technical phases of drug development, from the bench to the market, with high-level knowledge in regulatory affairs. Currently, Catarina is R&DI Director of Laboratórios BASI.



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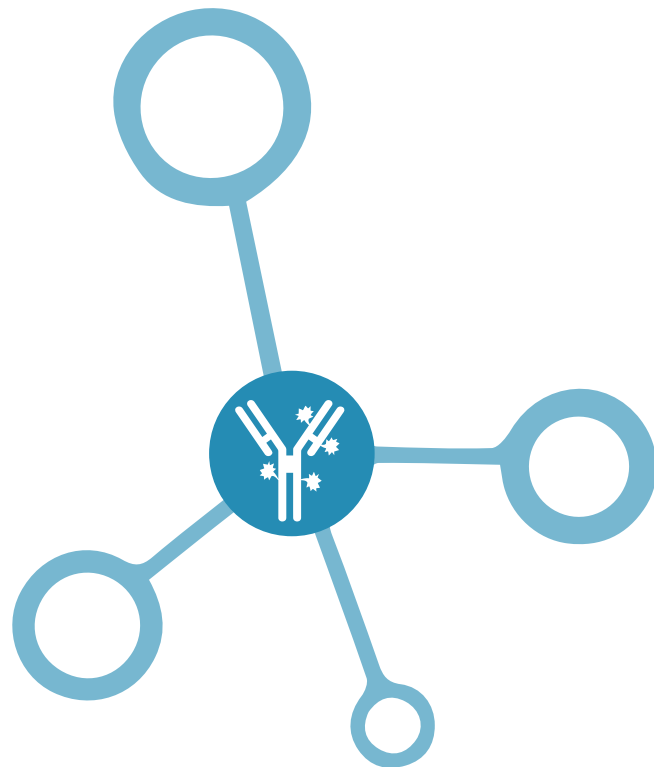
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Recently the company defined the R&D field as a new strategic area for the group to support innovation. Collaboration with Universities in several scientific areas is increasing in order to ensure that their clients benefit from the latest scientific developments and techniques. On this regard, BASI showed a strong interest in funding SIMICA to study the in vivo efficacy of a glycoconjugate vaccine against cancer fully developed during the course of the project. To protect this invention we have recently filed a patent application supported by the Technology transfer office of IMM, lead by Pedro Silva.

SIMICA news

- Raphaël Rodriguez presented his most recent work for IMM about the prevalent role of d-block metals in the regulation of cell plasticity, entitle "Discovery of a metal-driven signaling pathway that regulates cell plasticity".



- Julie Becher and Nisita Dutta from the University of Cambridge visited IMM to discuss their results about a new class of conditionally activable, targeted pro-drug conjugate to treat pancreatic cancer using Antibody-Drug Conjugates.

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