

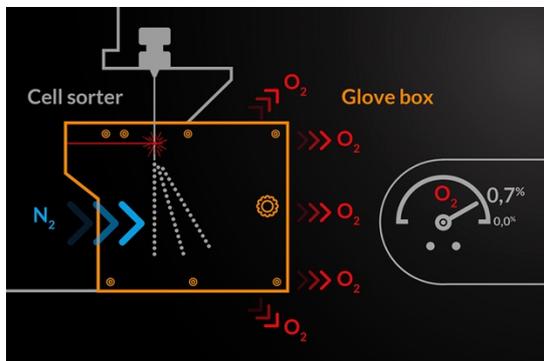
Lyon, June 10, 2020

## New collaboration Gustave Roussy – IRT BIOASTER

### «Fishing for success: Cancer microbiome-targeted culturomics to extract the most immunogenic commensals»

BIOASTER and Prof. Laurence Zitvogel's team at Gustave Roussy have just entered in collaboration for a cancer microbiome - targeted culturomics' project. The objective will be to isolate and cultivate specific commensal bacterial species that were found to be associated with response or resistance to immune checkpoint blockers in patients treated for advanced non-small cell lung cancer.

To this end, BIOASTER will rely on its expertise in flow cytometry and bacterial cell sorting under anaerobic conditions ('anoxic' platform: <https://youtu.be/PMCdL2-9MoU>), and on its experience to cultivate a variety of anaerobic strains.



Laurence Zitvogel's team at Gustave Roussy pioneered the research on the links between immune checkpoint blockers efficacy and gut microbiota composition to treat a number of cancers. They published key papers in very high impact journals and are among the very top researchers in this promising field of research.

*"Gustave Roussy is very pleased to work with BIOASTER to explore high performance technologies to isolate anaerobic and rare bacterial species detectable by metagenomics but never harvested from the dark matter, despite their great and unique potential for cancer immunotherapy."*

**Prof. Laurence Zitvogel, Gustave Roussy, Université Paris-Saclay, Inserm**

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*"We are very much looking forward to work with Prof. Laurence Zitvogel's team to investigate the usefulness of our unique 'targeted culturomics' tools in the field of cancer therapies. Potential modulation of Immune Checkpoint Blockers efficacy by commensal bacteria is a very promising avenue that we are excited to help explore."*

**Vincent Thomas, Head of the Microbiota Program, BIOASTER**

### **About Gustave Roussy**

Gustave Roussy, Europe's leading cancer center, is a global cancer center of expertise entirely dedicated to patients. It brings together 3,100 professionals whose missions are care, research and teaching. [www.gustaveroussy.fr/en](http://www.gustaveroussy.fr/en)

### **About BIOASTER**

Created in 2012, following the French initiative of Technological Research Institutes, BIOASTER is a non-for-profit foundation developing a unique technological and innovative model to support the latest challenges in microbiology. In particular, BIOASTER uses and develops high value technological innovations that accelerate development of medical solutions for populations and personalized medicine.

The aim of BIOASTER is to bring together academic, industry and its capacities and specific knowledge to develop and execute high impact collaborative projects requiring industry compatible innovative technologies.

Key figures:

- 4 fields of expertise: antimicrobials, diagnostics, microbiota, vaccines
- BSL2 & BSL3 laboratories in Lyon and Paris
- 100+ employees, including 80% of scientific experts, 17 nationalities
- 66+ collaborative projects, involving 27 private partners, 29 public partners.

[www.bioaster.org](http://www.bioaster.org)

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