

## **EVOTEC AND THE GCKD STUDY ENTER INTO STRATEGIC COLLABORATION TO BUILD A UNIQUE MOLECULAR PATIENT DATABASE**

- ▶ BIOSPECIMENS FROM >5,000 CKD (CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE) PATIENTS FROM THE GCKD COHORT STUDY WILL BE SCREENED AND ANALYSED USING EVOTEC'S **EVOPANOMICS** AND **EVOPANHUNTER** PLATFORMS
- ▶ THE GENERATION OF LONGITUDINAL DATA FOR THOUSANDS OF CKD PATIENTS WILL RESULT IN AN UNPRECEDENTED MOLECULAR PATIENT DATABASE
- ▶ THE STRATEGIC COLLABORATION PROVIDES UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES TO DEEPEN THE UNDERSTANDING OF DISEASE MECHANISMS, PROGRESSION AND POTENTIAL COMPLICATIONS

### **Hamburg and Erlangen, Germany, 04 May 2021:**

Evotec SE (Frankfurt Stock Exchange: EVT, MDAX/TecDAX, ISIN: DE0005664809) and the University Hospital Erlangen today announced a partnership regarding molecular analyses of biospecimens from the German Chronic Kidney Disease (“GCKD”) cohort study. Under the agreement, the research team will make use of Evotec’s proprietary **EVOp<sup>an</sup>Omic**s and **EVOp<sup>an</sup>Hunter** platforms to facilitate deep molecular profiling of patient samples. The Evotec platforms combine enhanced throughput proteomics, high-throughput transcriptomics and integrated data analysis.

Initiated in 2009, GCKD was designed to be the world’s largest cohort study on chronic kidney disease. Scientists from eleven universities work together with more than 150 practicing nephrologists to monitor more than 5,000 patients with CKD with biospecimens being taken and supporting interviews being conducted multiple times during the interval. Evotec will also financially support GCKD, which will enable the extension of this important cohort study beyond the initial term of 10 years, allowing future follow-up visits and additional sample analysis.

The multi-omics analysis of the biospecimens from the GCKD cohort study is expected to lead to a deeper understanding of different kidney disease etiologies, their respective disease mechanisms, progression and potential complications. Together with Evotec’s existing molecular patient database, this systematic integrated exploitation of the GCKD biobank will open the door to novel starting points for drug

discovery and the identification of biomarkers, enabling precision medicine approaches for highly effective treatment options for clearly defined patient populations.

**Dr Cord Dohrmann, Chief Scientific Officer of Evotec, commented:** “We continue to work towards our goal to build a highly comprehensive molecular patient database. This collaboration is a major step forward towards this goal and we are very excited about the opportunity to work with this unique network. The GCKD cohort not only complements and expands our already leading kidney disease data base with well-documented long-term survey of CKD patients and corresponding patient samples. The more comprehensive the data base, the more impactful it will be in re-defining patient populations according to disease mechanisms rather than symptoms, identify suitable molecular targets for intervention and stratify patient populations for clinical trials.”

**Prof. Dr Kai-Uwe Eckardt, Director of the Department of Nephrology and Medical Intensive Care at the Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, and Principal Investigator of the GCKD Study, said:** “CKD is a severe health problem that affects 10% of the population. The underlying mechanisms are complex and strong efforts are urgently needed to better understand this complexity. We are very excited to enter this collaboration with Evotec, which creates novel synergies and provides the prospect for innovative diagnostic and therapeutic approaches that can be translated into patient care.”

**Prof. Dr Anna Köttgen, Head of the Institute of Genetic Epidemiology at the University of Freiburg, and Member of the GCKD Steering Committee added:** “We are looking forward to expand the spectrum of molecular analyses in this cohort, which will greatly facilitate the discovery of robust associations between complex molecular phenotypes and clinical outcomes.”

“One of the challenges in studying CKD is the gradual decline of kidney function that may eventually lead to kidney failure. The GCKD study is unique as a long-term observational study and its extension will further increase the value of this huge research project,” **added Prof. Dr Mario Schiffer, Director of the Department of Nephrology and Hypertension at the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, and also Member of the GCKD Steering Committee.**

### **About EVOpanOmics / EVOpanHunter**

**EVOpanOmics** and **EVOpanHunter** are two of the building blocks of Evotec's strategic framework, Action Plan 2025: "the data-driven R&D Autobahn to Cures". **EVOpanOmics** involves the innovative use of genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, and phenotypic data in an integrated fashion. Evotec has established high-throughput transcriptomics and proteomics technologies, which can be used as unbiased read-outs in drug discovery and development. **EVOpanHunter** is Evotec's proprietary, integrated, user-centred bioinformatics platform which facilitates the analysis of PanOmics data integrated with other metadata sets. Evotec's proprietary platforms The combination of **EVOpanOmics** and **EVOpanHunter** on an integrated drug discovery and development platform is a game changer for data-driven approaches to highly effective personalised medicine.

#### *ABOUT EVOTEC SE*

*Evotec is a drug discovery alliance and development partnership company focused on rapidly progressing innovative product approaches with leading pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, academics, patient advocacy groups and venture capitalists. We operate worldwide and our more than 3,700 employees provide the highest quality stand-alone and integrated drug discovery and development solutions. We cover all activities from target-to-clinic to meet the industry's need for innovation and efficiency in drug discovery and development (EVT Execute). The Company has established a unique position by assembling top-class scientific experts and integrating state-of-the-art technologies as well as substantial experience and expertise in key therapeutic areas including neuronal diseases, diabetes and complications of diabetes, pain and inflammation, oncology, infectious diseases, respiratory diseases, fibrosis, rare diseases and women's health. On this basis, Evotec has built a broad and deep pipeline of more than 100 co-owned product opportunities at clinical, pre-clinical and discovery stages (EVT Innovate). Evotec has established multiple long-term alliances with partners including Bayer, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol Myers Squibb, CHDI, Novartis, Novo Nordisk, Pfizer, Sanofi, Takeda, UCB and others. For additional information please go to [www.evotec.com](http://www.evotec.com) and follow us on Twitter [@Evotec](https://twitter.com/Evotec).*

#### *FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS*

*Information set forth in this press release contains forward-looking statements, which involve a number of risks and uncertainties. The forward-looking statements contained herein represent the judgement of Evotec as of the date of this press release. Such forward-looking statements are neither promises nor guarantees, but are subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control, and which could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in these forward-looking statements. We expressly disclaim any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any such statements to reflect any change in our expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based.*