



Photys Appoints Alexandra Joseph, PhD, as Chief Scientific Officer

Waltham, Mass. – October 17, 2024 - Photys Therapeutics, a pioneer in the development of phosphorylation-inducing chimeric small molecule medicines (PHICS), announced the appointment of Dr. Alexandra Joseph as Chief Scientific Officer. PHICS are a proprietary new class of bifunctional medicines that direct and repair disease-driving proteins to treat a range of diseases including cancer, immune, metabolic, and rare diseases through precision protein phosphorylation.

“I’m thrilled to welcome Dr. Joseph to the Photys team as we aim to advance our pipeline of innovative bifunctionals for disease targets that were previously undruggable,” said Brian Fenton, President and Chief Executive Officer, Photys. “Alexandra is a scientific leader with deep expertise in translational research and a successful track record in advancing development candidates that can directly impact patients. She will be instrumental in shaping and executing our scientific strategy as we continue to unlock new treatments for a wide range of diseases.”

Alexandra Joseph, PhD is an R&D leader with over 20 years of experience advancing programs from discovery through commercialization and driving research, clinical and commercial strategies in big pharma and biotech. Alexandra has worked across a variety of indications including oncology, autoimmunity and inflammation, neurology and rare disease. Dr. Joseph held leadership roles of increasing responsibility during her 17-year tenure at Sanofi where she directed drug discovery and development, including two commercialized medicines. As Head of Scientific Portfolio Management and Operations for Immunology and Inflammation Research at Sanofi, she established the Immunology Research Organization and oversaw the discovery pipeline that delivered seven clinical candidates including Frexalimab. Prior to joining Photys, she was Executive Vice President of Biology at Exo Therapeutics, Vice President of Research at ImmunelD and Head of Translational Research at Kiniska. At Kiniksa, Alexandra developed and executed translational research strategies for Vixarelimab, Mavrilimumab and Abiprubart across autoimmune and inflammatory diseases. Dr. Joseph received her Ph.D. in Immunology from Tufts University Graduate School of Biomedical Science and completed her post-doctoral training at the Immune-Mediated Disease Institute at Harvard Medical School. She received a B.A. in Biology from Santa Clara University in California.

About PHICS

Post-translational modifications, particularly phosphorylation, are ubiquitous throughout the human proteome and play a central role in cellular function. Through induced proximity, PHICS enhance the pairing of specific kinases, the enzymes responsible for protein phosphorylation, with disease target proteins. PHICS can induce precise phosphorylation at native and/or non-native sites, modulating key functions including activation, stabilization, trafficking, localization, phospho-antigen presentation, inactivation, degradation and interactions of proteins. Harnessing well-established biology and chemistry in kinases and bifunctionals in new ways, the PHICS approach unlocks diverse classes of targets.

About Photys Therapeutics

Photys Therapeutics, founded by Longwood Fund and Dr. Amit Choudhary of Brigham and Women’s Hospital and the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, is advancing Phosphorylation Inducing Chimeric Small Molecules (PHICS), a proprietary new class of bifunctional medicines that direct and repair protein phosphorylation to treat a range of diseases including cancer, immune, metabolic, and rare diseases. Learn more at <https://www.photys.com/>.

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