

Press release

New book released covering *Biofunctional Surface Engineering* of medical devices edited by Prof. Martin Scholz, CSO with LEUKOCARE

Biofunctional surface engineering will determine the future of medical devices such as orthopedic implants, stents, catheters, vaccine scaffolds, wound dressings, and extracorporeal circulation devices. Moreover, the biosensor and diagnostic chip technology will evolve rapidly due to the growing medical need. One of the major drawbacks in these technologies is the need for terminally-sterilized products.

Munich, Germany, 08. April 2014

This is to announce the recent release of the latest book presenting status, opportunities, and an outlook regarding biologically functionalized medical devices. The compilation of 13 articles provided by experts from industry as well as academia and edited by Prof. Martin Scholz, Chief Scientific Officer with LEUKOCARE, gives a very substantial overview about broad applications of biofunctional surfaces and the profound medical need in various fields. Examples are orthopaedic and vascular implants, wound dressings, companion diagnostics in personalized medicine, or microneedles for transdermal vaccination.

The unsolved challenge of sterilizing functionalized products without harming the function facilitated by biological molecules creates a major constraint for market development. As a consequence, discussions have spawned about the reduction of regulatory requirements which might impose significant safety risks. As a safe alternative, LEUKOCARE provides novel technologies enabling the coupling, stabilization, and protection of effector molecules in a way that allows terminal sterilization without loss of function.

“This book fills a gap in literature by educating researchers in the field of surface engineering as well as medical device and biotech professionals in academic institutions and industry about the broad applications of biofunctional surfaces”, stated Dr. Georg Matheis, Managing Director of Novalung GmbH, Germany and an approved expert in the relevant matter.

“It represents a bridge between the fields of devices, biotech, and pharma where communication often suffers from a lack of cross boarder expertise.”

This book will provide a comprehensive overview on the state of the art and the future of “Biofunctional Surface Engineering” and will be of major interest for all those working in the fields of medicine and medical devices.

The book is published by Pan Stanford Publishing and is available at CRC Press (Taylor & Francis). It can be ordered online at www.crcpress.com and other booksellers as hardback as well as eBook.

About LEUKOCARE

LEUKOCARE is a leading provider of technologies for biological functionalization of surfaces and for stabilizing and protection proteins to extend shelf-life and to enable terminal sterilization by irradiation or gas. As a product-focused, clinical-stage biotechnology company, LEUKOCARE uses its proprietary technologies to couple, protect and elute biofunctional molecules. LEUKOCARE can functionalize a wide variety of surfaces including implant surfaces, wound dressings, patches, stents, catheters, columns for ex-vivo blood treatment and others.

Moreover, with LEUKOCARE technologies, biopharmaceutical products and vaccines can be significantly improved in respect to storage stability and quality. LEUKOCARE provides proprietary and patented formulation technologies for stabilization and protection of biologics to partners in the fields of biopharmaceuticals, vaccines and combination devices.

LEUKOCARE leverages its comprehensive expertise in product-focused industrial partnerships. LEUKOCARE’s technologies are currently employed in more than 15 collaborative development projects with industrial partners. LEUKOCARE was founded in 2003 and is headquartered in Martinsried near Munich, Germany.

For further information, please visit: www.LEUKOCARE.com.

About the Editor

Prof. Dr. Martin Scholz is a biologist and an expert in the biological functionalization of materials. As chief scientific officer with LEUKOCARE, a German-based biotech company, he is responsible for the company's R&D activities regarding biologic-device combination products with focus on improved biomolecule stability during stress exposures such as irradiation and long-term product storage. Prof. Scholz track record shows more than 25 years of academic and industrial R&D activities in the field of biology and medical research.

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