Proposal Evaluation Form

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Horizon 2020 - Research and Innovation Framework Programme

Evaluation Summary Report

Call: H2020-SMEINST-2-2016-2017
Funding scheme: SME-2
Proposal number: 806344
Proposal acronym: APOSEC
Duration (months): 36
Proposal title: APOSEC – Novel Secretome Based Regenerative Therapy
Activity: SMEInst-05-2016-2017

N.	Proposer name	Country	Total Cost	%	Grant Requested	%
1	Aposcience AG	AT	6,861,217	100.00%	5,000,000	100.00%
	Total:		6,861,217		5,000,000	

Abstract:
APOSEC is a project driven by the company APOSCIENCE AG, an Austrian SME, focusing on providing innovative therapeutics for regenerative medicine in chronic cutaneous wound healing, and in patients with myocardial infarction. The product named APOSECTM is based on the secretome of apoptotic white blood cells isolated from peripheral blood. Millions of patients are suffering of poorly healing wounds (diabetic foot ulcers-DFU, ischemic ulcerations, pressure ulcers). Chronic wounds are an important burden to patients and healthcare systems. In the US alone, chronic wounds account for more than $20 billion in healthcare cost. There is a huge unmet medical need for chronic wounds. APOSCIENCE has pioneered a proprietary cutting edge technology, which is a potential game-changer in the treatment of chronic wounds. Chronic wounds are a challenge to treaters, wound care professionals, and consume a great deal of healthcare resources around the globe. The current problem is that the treatment of chronic wounds are not resulting in a optimal closure of the wound, which results in poor quality of life of the patients. A main challenge is to provide an efficient therapy and treatment that reduces the hospitalization periods of patients dramatically. The whole concept for the APOSECTM project is based on a well-planned clinical development strategy and a technology innovation plan to upscale the production of the APOSECTM product(s) for market introduction and to develop a CE marked reconstitution and delivery device. The clinical development plan has been established for the indication of DFU up to a potential market authorization and product launch. Technical developments are needed within the production process to be more cost-efficient and integrate a higher automation grade. The main users of the APOSEC therapy products are not the patients but the hospitals and health centres with doctors, wound care specialists, surgeons, dermatologists, nurses, podiatrists.

Evaluation Summary Report

Evaluation Result

Total score: 11.44 (Threshold: 12)

Form information

Indicative Appraisal Scale per Sub-Criterion:
- Very Good to Excellent (4.5 – 5)
- Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)
- Fair to Good (2.5 – 3.49)
- Insufficient to Fair (1.5 – 2.49)
- Insufficient (0-1.49)

Operational Capacity

Status: **Operational Capacity: Yes**

If NO, please indicate the partner(s) concerned, and provide a short explanation. In any case, evaluate the full proposal, taking into account all partners and activities.

Not provided

Criterion 1 - Impact

Score: **3.71** (Threshold: 4/5.00 , Weight: 100.00%)

The expected impacts listed in the work programme under the relevant topic:

The proposal describes in a realistic and relevant way how the innovation has the potential to boost the growth of the applying company.
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

Enhancing innovation capacity:

The proposal demonstrates the alignment with the overall strategy of the participating SME(s) and the need for commercial and management experience, including understanding of the financial and organizational requirements for commercial exploitation as well as key third parties needed
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

Strengthening the competitiveness and growth of companies and create new market opportunities:

A European added value has been taken into account in the following aspects: a) the assessment of the market, b) the analysis of the competition, c) the impact on EU/global challenges.
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

The proposal indicates in a convincing way that there will be demand/market (willingness to pay) for the innovation when the product /solution is introduced into the market.
Fair to Good (2.5 – 3.49)

The targeted users or user groups of the final product/application, and their needs, are well described and the proposal provides a realistic description of why the identified groups will have an interest in using/buying the product/application, compared to current solutions available.
Fair to Good (2.5 – 3.49)

Address issues related to climate change or the environment, or bring other important benefits for society (not already covered above):

The proposal adequately addresses issues related to climate change or the environment, or brings other important benefits for society.
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

Quality of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results, and communicate the project activities to different target audiences:

The applicant has made a thorough competition analysis including a) description of competitors and competing products or services, and b) reasons to buy the proposed innovation rather than alternatives.
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

The commercialisation strategy is described in a realistic and relevant way, including approximate time to market/deployment. Activities to be further developed after phase 2, including additional dissemination measures, are well outlined.
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

Measures to ensure "freedom to operate" (possibility of commercial exploitation) are realistic and there is a convincing strategy of knowledge protection, including current IPR filing status, IPR ownership and licensing issues. Regulatory and/or standard requirements are well addressed.
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

Overall assessment of the Impact criterion

(25% weight in the assessment of this criterion)
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

Criterion 2 - Excellence

Score: **3.75** (Threshold: 3/5.00 , Weight: 100.00%)

Clarity and pertinence of the objectives:

The objectives for the project as well as the approach and activities to be developed are consistent with the expected impact (commercialisation/deployment). Specifications for the outcome of the project and criteria for success are well defined.
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

Credibility of the proposed methodology:

The expected performances of the innovation are convincing and have the potential to be relevant in terms of value for money.
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

Soundness of the concept, including appropriate consideration of interdisciplinary approaches and, where relevant, use of stakeholder knowledge:

The proposal reflects a very good understanding of both risks and opportunities related to a successful market introduction of the innovation, from a technical, commercial and regulatory point of view.

The feasibility assessment (developed under Phase I or through other means) demonstrates the technological/practical/economic viability of the innovation.
Fair to Good (2.5 – 3.49)

Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art, and demonstrates innovation potential:

With the proposed innovation, the company aims to explore new market opportunities addressing EU/global challenges.
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

The current stage of development (TRL 6 - see note 1- or similar for non-technological innovations) is well described. The steps planned to take this innovation to the market are clearly outlined.
Note 1: Please see part G of the General Annexes. (N.B.: In the case of SMEInst-05-2016-2017, the Technology Readiness Levels indication does not apply)
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

The proposal makes a realistic comparison with the current state-of-the-art solutions, including costs, environmental benefits, gender dimension- see note 2-, ease-of-use and other features.
Note 2:In relation to the project content, e.g. gender studies, clinical trials, etc.
Fair to Good (2.5 – 3.49)

Overall assessment of the Excellence criterion

(25% weight in the assessment of this criterion)
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

Criterion 3 - Quality and efficiency of implementation

Score: **3.98** (Threshold: 3/5.00 , Weight: 100.00%)

Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, including extent to which the resources assigned to work packages are in line with their objectives and deliverables:

The proposal demonstrates that the project has the relevant resources (personnel, facilities, networks, etc.) to develop its activities in the most suitable conditions. If relevant, describes in a realistic way how key stakeholders / partners / subcontractors could be involved and why and how they were selected (subcontractors must be selected using the best-value-for-money principles). (Where relevant-participants in a consortium are complementary).
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

Complementarity of the participants and extend to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise:

The team has relevant technical/scientific knowledge/management experience, and a very good understanding of the relevant market aspects for the particular innovation. If relevant, the proposal includes a plan to acquire missing competences, namely through partnerships or subcontracting (subcontractors must be selected using the best-value-for-money principles).
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, ensuring that all participants have a valid role and adequate resources in the project to fulfil that role:

Taking the project's ambition and objectives into account, the proposal includes a realistic time frame and a comprehensive implementation description.
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

The work package descriptions and major deliverables and milestones are realistic and relevant, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources, risk and innovation management.
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

Overall assessment of the Quality and Efficiency of Implementation Criterion

(25% weight in the assessment of this criterion)
Good to Very Good (3.5 – 4.49)

Subcontracting

Subcontracting is acceptable in terms of 'best value for money': (only NON-SMEInst-05-2016-2017: Supporting innovative SMEs in the healthcare biotechnology sector projects) except for task(s):

N.B.: A blank section means either a positive assessment of all your subcontracting tasks or that your proposal does not foresee any subcontracting activities.

Scope of the proposal

Status: **Yes**

Comments:

Not provided

Use of human embryonic stem cells (hESC)

Does this proposal involve the use of hESC?

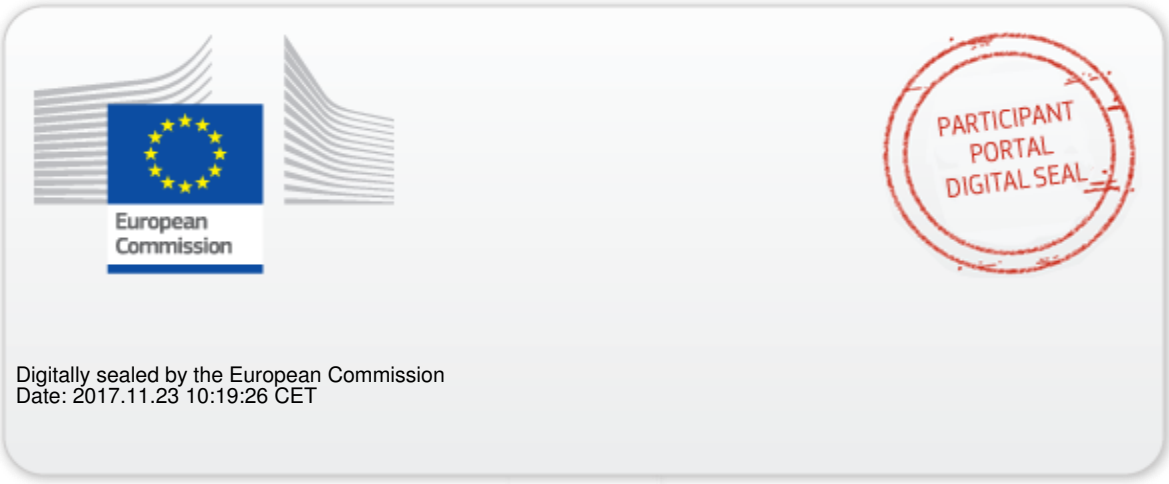
No

If yes, please state whether the use of hESC is, or is not, in your opinion, necessary to achieve the scientific objectives of the proposal and the reasons why. Alternatively, please also state if it cannot be assessed whether the use of hESC is necessary or not because of a lack of information.

Not provided

Overall comments

Not provided



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