



## **Ariana Pharma continues to bolster Scientific Advisory Board by adding world-leading Oncologist**

**Cambridge, MA, USA and Paris, France, May 9, 2023 – Ariana Pharma, a leading AI-driven precision medicine company, announces the appointment of Professor Jean-Yves BLAY to its Scientific Advisory Board.**

Jean-Yves Blay, MD, PhD is a medical oncologist, **General Director of the Centre Leon Bérard (CLB)**, the Comprehensive Cancer Centre of Lyon France since December 2014. He also serves as the **President** of the French Federation of Cancer Centers **Unicancer**, the network of 18 Comprehensive Cancer Centers in France. Professor Jean-Yves Blay will help bolster Ariana Pharma's clinical expertise in the field of Oncology and expand the company's academic and pharmaceutical collaborations internationally.

Professor Blay is currently **Director of Public Policy** of the European Society for Medical Oncology (**ESMO**), serving on the ESMO Executive Board and ESMO Council. He advises various national and international institutions and research organizations and is an active member of several oncology scientific organizations and societies, such as ESMO, CTOS, ASCO and AACR.

Professor Blay is managing several research cooperative groups and networks. He is the Director of the **LYRICAN** Innovative program of excellence for cancer research granted by the INCA since 2012. He is also President of the **French Sarcoma Group** since 2005, the Network director of **NETSARC+** network of sarcoma reference center for the INCA since 2019. He serves as Secretary for the **World Sarcoma Network** (WSN), a think tank of all worldwide sarcoma research groups, as well as the Network Coordinator of **ERN-EURACAN**, designated by the EU Commission in 2016 to improve the quality of care for patients with rare cancers in the European Union. Previously, he served as the President of **EORTC**.

*"It is great pleasure to announce the appointment of Professor Jean-Yves Blay to our Scientific Advisory Board, confirming our commitment for furthering AI driven Precision medicine in oncology by joining force with world leading experts" commented **Mohammad Afshar, MD, PhD, Co-founder and CEO of Ariana Pharma**. "Our Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) is well positioned to enhance our comprehension of crucial aspects of clinical drug development in the field of oncology. The extensive clinical oncology and oncology research background and expertise of Professor Jean-Yves Blay will provide invaluable support to Ariana Pharma in further advancing our oncology precision medicine analytical xAI platform. This will bring Ariana closer to meeting the unmet medical needs of cancer patients and their physicians in a more effective manner." added **Mohammad Afshar**.*

**Jean-Yves Blay said:** *"It is with great enthusiasm that I accept my appointment to Ariana Pharma's Scientific Advisory Board. Having had the privilege of collaborating with Ariana's team for several years, I am convinced of the immense potential of their AI platform in revolutionizing the drug development process. We have a shared objective of radically advancing and accelerating drug development in oncology, and across other therapeutic domains. Through the implementation of explainable AI, Ariana Pharma aims to facilitate, expedite, and optimize drug development, in alignment with its overarching mission."*

**ENDS**

**For further information contact:**

**Marion Soto**

Vice President, Business Development

Email: [m.soto@arianapharma.com](mailto:m.soto@arianapharma.com)

## **About Ariana Pharma**

Ariana Pharma is a leading Artificial Intelligence (AI) drug development company. Using its KEM® Artificial Intelligence (xAI) technology, Ariana helps its partners introduce personalized medicine clinical trial design into their protocols and optimize clinical endpoints, identify biomarkers of therapeutic response and potential synergistic therapies.

Ariana routinely collects and combines clinical data with omic data, immunological readouts (such as Fluorescence-Activated Cell Sorting (FACS)), microbiota, Patient Reported Outcomes (PRO) as well as Real World Evidence (RWE) data. Combining advanced data analytics, drug development, and regulatory expertise, Ariana helps translate findings into innovative clinical development plans and regulatory approvals. With a growing number of successful therapeutic development programs, KEM® is an FDA-assessed technology that systematically explores combinations of biomarkers, producing more effective biomarker signatures for precision medicine.

Ariana has developed Onco KEM®, the most advanced, clinically tested, oncology therapeutic decision support system. Founded in 2003 as a spin-off of the Institut Pasteur, Paris, France, the company operates a subsidiary in the United States since 2012.

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