



Press release

The European Investment Bank and ROVI spur innovation in the Spanish pharmaceutical sector

- EIB and ROVI are signing a EUR 50 million loan agreement in Madrid for research, development and innovation.
- EIB to support a Spanish company, ROVI, in its RDI activities related to the ISM® prolonged drug-release technology.

Madrid, 19th July 2022

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is providing Laboratorios Farmacéuticos Rovi (ROVI) with a new EUR 50 million loan to finance its RDI activities for new developments in the ISM® prolonged drug-release technology, patented by ROVI, in fields such as oncology and the central nervous system, as well as the development and expansion of product applications in the glycomics field.

The agreement was signed in Madrid by Ricardo Mourinho Félix, European Investment Bank Vice-President, and the Chairman and CEO of ROVI, Juan López-Belmonte.

ROVI is a Spanish company specialised in researching, developing and marketing proprietary pharmaceuticals. It is currently participating in the manufacture of the active substance, as well as the fill & finish for the Moderna Covid-19 vaccine. ROVI is specialised in the manufacture of low-molecular-weight heparins (LMWHs), which the WHO recommends as essential medicines for patients hospitalised in intensive care units due to Covid-19.

The EIB loan helps to accelerate ROVI's RDI strategy by supporting the investments of this highly innovative company.

The financing will generate considerable positive externalities for the European pharmaceutical industry, contributing to the EU efforts to cover unmet health needs and secure qualified jobs.

[Ricardo Mourinho Félix, European Investment Bank Vice-President](#) said: "The EIB is committed to promoting RDI investment in Spain whilst helping preserve skilled employment. A European company that can significantly contribute to the solution of the current and future pandemics provides a significant strategic advantage for Europe and Spain. I am pleased that this loan will help ROVI to contribute to the competitive search to enhance pharmaceutical knowledge in Europe in areas that are important for the improvement of the health of its citizens".

Juan López-Belmonte Encina, chairman and chief executive officer of ROVI, said: "Innovation and research form part of our identity as a pharmaceutical company, given that we bet on solutions that improve people's health. At ROVI, we have a sound R&D strategy that makes us optimistic, since we hope that, as a result of the new launches, R&D will become one of the group's strategic drivers in coming years. Therefore, the fact that the BEI has again placed its confidence in us so that we can

continue to progress with our R&D projects represents a great opportunity for our company”.

Finance for research and development activities

The EIB's loan will finance ROVI's R&D activities in various drug delivery technologies with a particular focus on psychiatry and oncology, and the development and improvement of products in the glycomic area. It will also support pre-clinical and clinical development (clinical trials, regulatory approvals) research and development, market access and international roll-out of the company's pipeline of in-house developed products.

Second EIB loan to ROVI

ROVI has been working with the EIB since 2017. Prior to this newly signed loan, the EIB had granted a EUR 45m loan to ROVI to finance its RDI programme focusing on technologies for the administration and extended release of medication related to treatments to fight cancer and nervous system diseases.

Background information

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is the long-term lending institution of the European Union owned by its Member States. It makes long-term finance available for sound investments in order to contribute towards EU policy goals. The European Investment Bank (EIB) issues long-term loans on behalf of the European Union.

About ROVI

ROVI is a pan-European pharmaceutical company specialising and engaging in the research, development, contract manufacturing and marketing of small molecules and biological specialties. The company, in a continuous international expansion

process, has subsidiaries in Portugal, Germany, the United Kingdom, Italy, France and Poland, and has a diversified marketing portfolio of more than 40 products, among which its flagship product, Bemiparin, which is present in 89 countries all over the world, should be highlighted. Likewise, in 2017, ROVI commenced the marketing of its in-house developed enoxaparin biosimilar in Europe, which is now marketed in 38 countries. ROVI continues to develop its ISM® technology, a leading-edge line of research in the field of prolonged drug release with proven advantages. For more information, please visit www.rovi.es.

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