

On behalf of Dr Pavel Otahal, we would like to express interest to cooperate as a partner in the following calls:

- HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-02: Strengthening research capacities of Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures
- HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-03: Pragmatic clinical trials to optimise treatments for patients with refractory cancers

For questions and contact initiation, please email miluse.cizkova@uhkt.cz.

Keywords:

CAR-T cells, gene-engineered T cells, good manufacturing practice, cancer immunotherapy

Information about the IHBT:

Country	Czech Republic
Name of organization	Institute of Hematology and Blood Transfusion (IHBT)
Type of organization	State funded organization of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic Public body Research organization
Description of organization	The Institute of Hematology and Blood Transfusion (IHBT) is an expanding center offering state-of-art medicine and top-notch research, as well as a friendly and safe organization for both patients and personnel. The IHBT deals with the diagnosis and treatment of patients with severe blood diseases. Most often, these patients suffer from acute and chronic leukemias, malignant lymphomas, myelodysplastic syndromes, myeloproliferative diseases, anemias and congenital or acquired disorders of blood clotting. A team approach plays an essential part in the treatment of patients; it is secured by the cooperation of experienced physicians, nurses, and many other specialists. Thanks to this concept, we can take care of the patients with severe hematological diagnoses and provide them with modern therapies such as allogeneic bone marrow transplantation and CAR T cells. An essential part of the activities of the IHBT is the basic, translational and clinical research. The Institute offers to severely ill patients a unique combination of top-level clinical care and various novel experimental approaches via clinical trials. In addition, IHBT has a large program devoted to the development, GMP manufacturing and clinical testing of original Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMPs) based on gene-engineered CAR-T cells. The Institute is also significantly involved in educational and training activities, in cooperation with the 1st Medical Faculty, Charles University contributes to the medical and scientific postgraduate education. Further information is available at: www.uhkt.cz/ihbt .
Our expertise	IHBT provides major expertise at a national level in the area of hematological medical care. The treatment is provided to patients with newly diagnosed diseases and also to patients who relapsed and were referred to IHBT from other Czech hospitals. We offer to those patients suffering from refractory

	<p>leukemias/lymphomas various next lines of treatment such as allogeneic bone marrow transplantations and CAR-T therapy with approved commercial products. IHBT has been continuously developing the CAR-T program for many years. It originally started with basic research projects aimed at developing of CD19-specific CAR-T cells via transposon-based non-viral techniques. Subsequently, it enabled to establish a GMP facility for the production of locally manufactured CD19-specific CAR-T cells and to initiate their clinical testing at IHBT. In addition to GMP manufacturing capability, IHBT has thorough experience with all tasks associated with the clinical testing of novel ATMPs, such as the preparation of pharmaceutical documentations and clinical trial protocols.</p> <p>We are looking for an international collaboration with other GMP manufacturing-capable centers to strengthen and increase the production capacity and to speed up the development of novel T cell-based therapeutical products utilizing Chimeric Antigenic Receptors. Our focus in the field of T cell-based therapies is on the non-viral gene engineering methods because it is cost-effective and enables short time from design to production. The multicenter collaboration has high potential to promote novel innovative research and care strategies for patients with refractory hematological cancers and might even lead to the development of novel therapeutic products.</p>
Name and Specialty of the Principal Investigator:	<p>Pavel Otahal, MD, PhD Dr Otahal is a leader of Research section at the IHBT. He is an experienced hematologist and a researcher focusing on cellular immunotherapy of cancer. His major research goal is to study and develop novel types of Chimeric Antigenic Receptor-modified T cells for the therapy of leukemias and lymphomas.</p>