NOVADISCOVERY WELCOMES TWO NEW MEMBERS TO ITS TEAM TO STRENGTHEN ITS COMBINED EXPERTISE IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND CLINICAL MEDICINE

- **Dr. David duVerle**, PhD, previously academic researcher in computational biology and bioinformatics in Tokyo, Japan, notably at the University of Tokyo, becomes Chief Scientific Officer of the company

- **Professor Marc Hommel**, neurologist at CHU Grenoble and professor at the faculty of medicine Grenoble Alps, is appointed as Vice President of Medicine of NOVADISCOVERY

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NOVADISCOVERY, a pioneer in *in silico* clinical trials, today announced the strengthening of its team with the nomination of its new Chief Scientific Officer, David duVerle, and the appointment of Prof. Marc Hommel as VP of Medicine.

These two arrivals are critical and in line with NOVA's strategy of conjugating mechanistic (top-down) and data-heavy (bottom-up) approaches to perfect the use of AI and machine learning in drug research and development.

François-Henri Boissel, CEO of NOVA, comments: "We are delighted to welcome David duVerle and Marc Hommel into NOVA's team as they represent the two worlds that we dynamically combine to serve the goals of both regulators and industry partners when developing *in silico* clinical trials. A key success factor is to seamlessly combine a wide array of expertise: clinical pharmacology, clinical trial methodology, artificial intelligence, computer sciences and applied mathematics."

"David duVerle is an expert in AI and perfectly matches NOVA's current need for increased machine learning integration in its technology. Our platform has to be able to blend more data-heavy approaches with knowledge-heavy/mechanistic models. Regarding Pr. Marc Hommel, he is one of the early adopters of the Effect Model and a long-time proponent of the *in silico* approach, as well as a remarkable clinician" **Adds Jean-Pierre Boissel, MD, PhD, Emeritus Professor in Clinical Pharmacology, Co-founder & Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of NOVA.**

"The mechanistic approach developed by NOVA has demonstrated its value on tangible use cases with pharmas and biotechs, and it meshes nicely with the machine learning expertise I will bring. I am very excited to be part of NOVA as I am convinced that a middle-out approach combining top-down and bottom-up is the way forward, and I'll be happy to contribute to the development of the company with my experience in computational biology and bioinformatics and my background in AI and machine learning." **Adds David duVerle, new CSO of the company.**

"I have worked with Jean-Pierre Boissel for a long time, since I was conducting clinical studies in stroke in the 90's. He is a real pioneer in biomodeling and we learned a lot together at the time. I am very enthusiastic about NOVA's potential and I'm delighted to bring my clinical expertise to the

company he has cofounded." **Concludes Professor Marc Hommel, new VP of Medicine of the company.**

Biographies

David duVerle received his Ph.D. in Bioinformatics from the University of Kyoto in 2012, after an M.Sc. in Artificial Intelligence at Pierre & Marie Curie University in Paris.

Before joining NOVA, he was an assistant professor at the University of Tokyo's Graduate School of Frontier Sciences with a joint position at the AI Research Center (AIRC), working on applications of Machine Learning and algorithmic techniques to novel high-dimensional problems in genomics and other emerging pluridisciplinary fields. His past projects have covered many aspects of systems biology and high-throughput omics data analysis, as well as personalised medicine and genomic privacy.

His last research before joining NOVA included the modelling and analysis of Single Cell sequencing data, with a view toward better understanding early oncogenesis and tumour progression.

Prof. Marc Hommel is neurologist at the University Hospital Grenoble Alps where he was in charge of the stroke program. He combined a MD and a certification in neurology at University of Grenoble with a M.Sc. in analysis and modeling at University of Lyon. As a clinical researcher, he was involved in randomized multicenter clinical trials, diagnostic studies and pathophysiological studies. Recently he was involved in regenerative medicine projects using cell therapy to increase brain's post stroke plasticity. To improve stroke care, he served at the Rhône-Alps regional level and at the French Ministry of Health as the national stroke expert. He founded and headed the INSERM Clinical Investigation Center at Grenoble University Hospital.

Marc also served at the editorial boards of international journals, including the New England Journal of Medicine.

He is the director of the EA 7407 Autonomy, Gerontology, e-Health and Society at the University Grenoble Alps.

About NOVADISCOVERY

Establishing *in silico* as the 3rd pillar of drug R&D with *in vitro* and *in vivo* trials, NOVADISCOVERY increases biotech and pharma companies' probability of success while reducing time and costs.

Pioneer in *in silico* clinical trials, NOVADISCOVERY builds knowledge-driven models applied to virtual patients and runs computer-based clinical trials to accelerate and de-risk the R&D of new drugs by establishing their therapeutic benefit, potentially years before human trials take place.

With Artificial Intelligence and virtual populations at the heart of NOVA's innovative approach, selected applications include:

// explore the mechanisms of action of a drug candidate and potential combinations safer, cheaper and faster,

// optimize *in vitro/in vivo* testing and clinical design,

// assist with value demonstration efforts in market access.

Located at the heart of the European life sciences cluster Lyonbiopôle, NOVADISCOVERY harnesses the expertise of a team of scientists, engineers and clinicians who work at the interface of medicine, clinical pharmacology, mathematics, artificial intelligence and computer sciences.

Visit us at www.novadiscovery.com and follow us on Twitter, LinkedIn & Vimeo.

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