



WISE awarded grant from the European Commission through the EIC Accelerator Programme

To develop the first expandable percutaneous multi-column lead for Spinal Cord Stimulation

Milan, Italy, 29 July 2020 - WISE Srl, a medical device company developing next-generation implantable leads for neuromonitoring, neuromodulation and brain-machine interface, has been awarded funding within the framework of the [EIC Accelerator program](#) to carry out the PercPad project.

WISE's PercPad project is one of 2% of projects - and the only Italian - that have been awarded a grant under the EIC Accelerator scheme of Horizon 2020 out of the 3.969 EU-wide applicants of the 18 March 2020 cut-off. The EIC Accelerator (previously known as SME Instrument) is a highly competitive funding programme of the European Commission, supporting high-risk, high-potential small and medium-sized enterprises and innovators to help them develop and bring to the market new innovative products, services and business models with significant growth potentials and global ambitions.

The EC grant of 2.3 M€ will allow WISE to complete the development and bring to the market **the first expandable percutaneous lead for Spinal Cord Stimulation (SCS)** for the treatment of chronic pain by Neuromodulation, a market with large constant growth rates and an unmet medical need.

SCS is a minimally invasive pain relief technique that consists in delivering electrical pulses toward the spinal cord to block the sensation of pain. WISE's lead is the first SCS multi-column paddle lead for the treatment of chronic pain that can be implanted percutaneously by pain therapists, combining the benefits of "multicolumn paddles", that have superior performance, and "cylindrical leads", that can be inserted percutaneously. WISE's innovation will provide the best lead with the least invasive implantation procedure to the largest segment in the SCS market, potentially allowing better results for patients suffering from disabling chronic pain.

"We are thankful to the EC for giving us the opportunity of accelerating the path to the market for a product we strongly believe in. The whole team is looking forward to giving speed to this innovative project" said **Luca Ravagnan, CEO of WISE**. "This marks the recognition of WISE as one of the top-class innovators in the EU"

"The EIC pilot supports top-class innovators, entrepreneurs, small companies and scientists with bright ideas and the ambition to scale up internationally. WISE represents a good Italian example of a successful proposal with all these characteristics: the dedicated team, the concept of disruptive innovation and scaling up are perfectly in line with the objectives of EIC. A good example to be replicated," said **Antonio Carbone of APRE**, the Agency for the Promotion of European Research in Italy.

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About WISE Srl

WISE is developing a genuinely new generation of leads for Neuromonitoring, Neuromodulation and Brain Machine Interfacing by means of its proprietary Supersonic Cluster Beam Implantation (SCBI) technology.

Neuromonitoring and Neuromodulation require electrodes and leads to be surgically implanted on neural tissues (as for instance the brain and the spinal cord) to apply electrical stimuli or to record the electrical activity. The leads produced using WISE's new SCBI technology consist of stretchable electronic circuits integrated in very thin elastomeric foils. As a result, WISE's electrodes are highly ergonomic, conformable, soft and thin, thus allowing great adhesion, minimal invasiveness and excellent adaptability on neural tissues.

In parallel with the development of the SCS EXPERT™ lead, WISE will be soon bringing to the market also the WISE Cortical Strip (WCS), a single use medical device for IntraOperative Neurophysiological Monitoring during brain tumor and epilepsy surgeries. The WCS is used for continuous recording of the brain's electrical activity and for brain stimulation.

Founded in 2011 by a team of material scientists coming from the University of Milan, WISE has so far received funding from Agite!, Atlante Seed and Atlante Ventures, b-to-v, HTGF, Principia SGR and private investors. Since 2016 the Company has established its production plant in Cologno Monzese, Milan, Italy (1000 m² wide, comprising cleanrooms and production laboratories compliant for the manufacturing of implantable medical devices) and has an office in Berlin, Germany.

For more information, please visit: www.wiseneuro.com.