

## BioSenic presents successful preclinical data on its ATO medication for controlling key symptoms at the 2024 Systemic Sclerosis World Congress

- Preclinical data in a transgenic mouse model shows beneficial effects on various clinical symptoms analogous to those observed in human systemic sclerosis.
- Findings may further support future clinical program.

Mont-Saint-Guibert, Belgium, 20 March 2024, 7.00am CET – **BioSenic** (Euronext Brussels and Paris: BIOS), the clinical-stage company specializing in serious autoimmune and inflammatory diseases and cell therapy, presented the latest data on arsenic trioxide (ATO) for systemic sclerosis (SSc) at the 8<sup>th</sup> Systemic Sclerosis World Congress 2024. The data, obtained with the laboratory of Yannick Allanore, MD, Ph.D. from the Hospital Cochin, builds additional evidence for the use of ATO in multiple autoimmune conditions, as observed in various animal models and in recent pilot human clinical trials.

The scientific communication presented by Anne Cauvet and Pr. Allanore demonstrated the efficacy of ATO in Fra2 transgenic mice, which is used as a disease model of symptomatic SSc, a chronic autoimmune disease marked by multi-organ fibrosis. BioSenic has previously showed that ATO, a first-in-class specific immunomodulatory drug, has significant therapeutic action in humans, and the company is progressing several formulations for autoimmune diseases in clinical trials. The researchers further reported that ATO resulted in significant lung histological changes, a trend towards a decrease in various fibrotic makers and a strong reduction in vascular remodeling in the SSc mouse model. The mechanism of action of ATO appears to involve a marked counteraction of the immune activation characteristic of SSc, particularly Tcell involvement. These positive findings have encouraged BioSenic to continue studying ATO for potential use in SSc.

**François Rieger, PhD, President of the Board and CEO of the BioSenic Group, said:** “Our past data, including several animal models of autoimmune diseases and recent Phase 2 trials in systemic lupus erythematosus and chronic graft-versus-host-disease, have shown the remarkable therapeutic benefits of BioSenic’s liquid ATO solution for various autoimmune conditions with critical unmet medical needs. The more recent data for another serious autoimmune disease, systemic sclerosis, has given convincing preclinical evidence to support a Phase 2 trial for patients affected by this disease, which has no cure. The well-known safety of ATO’s pharmacologically active ingredient mean derived products, including an oral formulation (OATO), may follow FDA’s rapid 505(b)(2) regulatory path.”

Understanding the mechanisms of action of arsenic on target cells is essential to determine the best conditions of use and possibly optimal combinations with other drugs. The work of several research teams worldwide has highlighted the autoimmunity-regulating, anti-fibrotic and vascular remodeling properties of arsenic, with potential to treat the lethal lesions in SSc and other autoimmune pathologies.

**Dr. Carole Nicco, BioSenic’s CSO and COO, said:** “We are pleased to highlight these results, which complement previous findings in another preclinical model of non-genetic but induced-SSc. All our preclinical data, taken together, provide a coherent picture of the significant therapeutic effect we can expect in human patients suffering from severe chronic autoimmune diseases with unmet medical needs.”

The results were presented at the 8<sup>th</sup> Systemic Sclerosis World Congress last week in Prague, Czech Republic.

### About BioSenic

BioSenic is a leading biotech company specializing in the development of clinical assets issued from its Medsenic’s arsenic trioxide (ATO) platform. Key target indications for the autoimmune platform include graft-versus-host-disease (GvHD), systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), and now systemic sclerosis (SSc).

Following the merger in October 2022, BioSenic combined the strategic positionings and strengths of Medsenic and Bone Therapeutics. The merger specifically enables Medsenic/Biosenic to develop an entirely new arsenal of various anti-inflammatory and anti-autoimmune formulations using the immunomodulatory properties of ATO/oral ATO (OATO).

BioSenic is based in the Louvain-la-Neuve Science Park in Mont-Saint-Guibert, Belgium. Further information is available at <http://www.biosenic.com>.

### About the main Medsenic/BioSenic technology platform

The **ATO platform** provides derived active products with immunomodulatory properties and fundamental effects on the activated cells of the immune system. One direct application is its use in onco-immunology to treat GvHD (Graft-versus-Host Disease) in its chronic, established stage. cGvHD is one

of the most common and clinically significant complications affecting long-term survival of allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (allo-HSCT).

Medsenic has been successful in a phase 2 trial with its intravenous formulation, **Arscimed®**, which has orphan drug designation status by FDA and EMA. The company is heading towards an international phase 3 confirmatory study, with its new, IP-protected, OATO formulation. Another selected target is moderate-to-severe forms of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), using the same oral formulation. ATO has shown good safety and significant clinical efficacy on several affected organs (skin, mucosae, and the gastrointestinal tract). Systemic sclerosis is now full part of the clinical pipeline of Medsenic/BioSenic. This serious chronic disease badly affects skin, lungs, or vascularization, and has no current effective treatment. Preclinical studies on pertinent animal models are positive, giving good grounds to launch a phase 2 clinical protocol, using new immunomodulatory formulations of APIs recognized to be active on the immune system.

The company is currently focusing its present R&D and clinical activities on a selective, accelerated development of its autoimmune platform.

*Note: The allogeneic cell therapy platform-originating from the previous listed company Bone Therapeutics company, may be of renewed interest by using isolated and purified differentiated bone marrow Mesenchymal Stromal Cells (MSCs) as a starting material for further isolation of passive or active biological subcellular elements. Indeed, these cells may provide new subcellular vesicles potentially able to deliver a unique and proprietary approach to organ repair. BioSenic is now involved in determining new patentable approaches in this complex area of cell therapy.*

**For further information, please contact:**

**BioSenic SA**

François Rieger, PhD, Chief Executive Officer

Tel: +33 (0)671 73 31 59

investorrelations@biosenic.com

International Media Enquiries:

**IB Communications**

Neil Hunter / Michelle Boxall

Tel: +44 (0)20 8943 4685

neil.hunter@ibcomms.agency / michelle@ibcomms.agency

For French Investor Enquiries:

**Seitosei • Actifin**

Ghislaine Gasparetto

Tel: +33 (0)1 56 88 11 22

ghislaine.gasparetto@seitosei-actifin.com

*Certain statements, beliefs and opinions in this press release are forward-looking, which reflect the company or, as appropriate, the company directors' current expectations and projections about future events. By their nature, forward-looking statements involve a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions that could cause actual results or events to differ materially from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. These risks, uncertainties and assumptions could adversely affect the outcome and financial effects of the plans and events described herein. A multitude of factors including, but not limited to, changes in demand, competition and technology, can cause actual events, performance or results to differ significantly from any anticipated development. Forward looking statements contained in this press release regarding past trends or activities should not be taken as a representation that such trends or activities will continue in the future. As a result, the company expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release any update or revisions to any forward-looking statements in this press release as a result of any change in expectations or any change in events, conditions, assumptions or circumstances on which these forward-looking statements are based. Neither the company nor its advisers or representatives nor any of its subsidiary undertakings or any such person's officers or employees guarantees that the assumptions underlying such forward-looking statements are free from errors nor does either accept any responsibility for the future accuracy of the forward-looking statements contained in this press release or the actual occurrence of the forecasted developments. You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this press release.*