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## hemotune raises CHF 7.25 million Series B1 funding for the development of their disruptive blood purification platform

*Schlieren, Switzerland, April 26, 2021* – [hemotune AG](#), a spin-off from [ETH Zurich](#) founded in 2017 and being accelerated by [Wyss Zurich](#), today announced the closing of a CHF 7.25 million Series B1 for the development of HemoSystem, a breakthrough blood purification platform based on nanoengineered magnetic beads. The investment consortium was led by [OCCIDENT](#) with participation of all previous investors including [Zürcher Kantonalbank](#) and joined by the new investors [HEMEX](#), [VP Venture Partners](#) as well as a global family office and private individuals.

The Series B1 will allow hemotune to complete the preclinical development of HemoSystem and prepare a clinical trial in hemotune's lead indication. The HemoSystem is a blood purification platform with much higher efficiency and precision compared to existing methods. It mixes nanoengineered magnetic beads directly with patients' blood in a dialysis-like machine where they bind to selected targets. While the blood flows through a magnetic filter, beads and bound targets are highly efficiently removed before it is recirculated to the patient's body. The first therapy under development is designed to restore adequate immune response in sepsis-associated immunosuppression. Sepsis is an underserved global health issue leading to around 11 million deaths every year and being one of the most expensive conditions.

Lukas Langenegger, CEO and co-founder of hemotune AG, states: "We are very proud about our achievements in the past years, bringing the technology from a lab concept to a medical device soon to be used to the benefit of patients and building a great network of clinicians and immunologists. We are happy that all previous investors participated in the round and are welcoming the new investors on our journey to disrupt blood purification and sepsis treatment."

Cédric Barra, Senior Investment Manager for the life sciences sector at OCCIDENT comments: "One of the most important factors for us is always the team behind the technology. The team of hemotune has done a tremendous job and convinced us once again to take the lead in this round. With this funding, the company will be able to continue the very encouraging development of the platform device we have seen over the last years. I am glad that we can contribute to such a relevant therapeutic area with a technology from which many patients can benefit in the future."

Fabian Bamert, Head of Start-up Finance at Zürcher Kantonalbank says: "hemotune is a great example of a Swiss high-tech startup with the bold vision to solve one of the greatest global health challenges. We are proud to be part of hemotune's success story from the beginning."

Dr. Valentin Piëch, Managing Director of VP Venture Partners adds: "hemotune's precision blood purification system is designed to specifically remove individual proteins or combinations thereof, resulting in a medical device platform more akin to therapeutics developed by a traditional biotech, with the added benefit of a leaner development pathway for individual indications."

Pascal Winnen, CEO of HEMEX states: "As clinical research organization with experience in managing global infectious diseases trials, we were intrigued by hemotune's innovative approach



to tackle septic shock. Being an early-stage life science investor, we look forward to support hemotune on the journey to making the HemoSystem available to patients globally.”

### About hemotune

hemotune is a Schlieren-based MedTech startup developing a revolutionary blood purification platform. It combines cutting-edge scientific results from biomedicine and nanotechnology to develop a new treatment platform combining the benefits of medical devices and biotech. Founded 2017 as [ETH Zurich](#) Spin-Off, the company was accelerated by [Wyss Zurich](#) and received support by [Venture Kick](#), [Gebert Rüf Foundation](#), [Innosuisse](#), [H2020](#) and [EIT Health](#). Furthermore, the company won several prestigious prizes such as the [Swiss Technology Award 2020](#), was featured as [Nr.1 Spin-off to watch 2021](#) by Forbes magazine and is nominated for the [Swiss Economic Award 2022](#). For more information, please visit [www.hemotune.ch](http://www.hemotune.ch).

### About OCCIDENT

OCCIDENT is an international venture capital investor with offices in Zug and Munich, is owner-managed and invests own wealth. Its aim is to make a positive contribution to society through sustainable and meaningful investments.

OCCIDENT invests in innovative deep tech start-ups with excellent technologies in the fields of life sciences, digital and high-tech with broad application possibilities and the potential for further value-generating developments. The geographic focus is Germany and Switzerland. The preferred stage for initial financing is from seed rounds or later and from 0.5 million euros. OCCIDENT distinguishes itself in particular by its in-depth knowledge of the technology and the versatile support offered to its portfolio companies by its competent team of experts. For more information, please visit [www.occident.group](http://www.occident.group).

### About Zürcher Kantonalbank (ZKB)

Zürcher Kantonalbank is a leading universal bank in the Zurich economic area with Swiss roots and international reach. It is an independent, incorporated public-law institution of the Canton of Zurich and has received top ratings from the rating agencies Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch (AAA/Aaa). With more than 5,000 employees, Zürcher Kantonalbank offers its clients a comprehensive range of products and services. The bank's core activities include financing businesses, asset and wealth management, trading, capital market transactions, deposits, payment transactions and the card business. Zürcher Kantonalbank provides clients and distribution partners with a comprehensive range of investment and retirement provision products and services. For more information, please visit [www.zkb.ch](http://www.zkb.ch).

### **About VP Venture Partners**

VP Venture Partners is a private Zurich based venture capital firm supporting early-stage Life Science companies in Europe. For more information, please visit <https://www.vpventurepartners.com>

### **About HEMEX**

HEMEX is committed to changing the future of healthcare by guiding the most promising European startups through each and every step to bring innovative pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and in vitro diagnostics to the market. Headquartered close to the thriving Basel global Life Sciences hub, the goal at HEMEX is to ensure startups have access to a wide range of tailored products, practical solutions, and fundraising support. This empowers the next generation of transformative discoveries to grow into successful and sustainable businesses, and drive change in both human and animal healthcare. For more information, visit <https://hemex.ch>

### **About Wyss Zurich**

The Wyss Zurich Translational Center (Wyss Zurich) is a joint accelerator of the University of Zurich and ETH Zurich (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich), which was made possible by a generous donation from the Swiss entrepreneur and philanthropist Dr. h.c. mult. Hansjörg Wyss. It was established to foster translational research focused on developing treatment protocols and clinical therapies, as well as novel technologies and intelligent systems, in the emerging fields of Regenerative Medicine, Life Sciences and Robotics. Wyss Zurich unites world-leading experts from both institutions in multidisciplinary teams, pooling their knowledge and expertise. For more information, please visit [www.wysszurich.ch](http://www.wysszurich.ch).

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