

Estonian biotech company GeneCode selected among the most promising pharma companies in the European Union

PRESS RELEASE – GeneCode, October 22nd – The European Innovation Council (EIC) [announced](#) in October that the Estonian pharmaceutical development company GeneCode has joined the EIC Scaling Club network. The membership opens new opportunities for GeneCode to expand its operations and attract new partners and investors.

The European Innovation Council aims to support deep-tech companies with the potential to create breakthrough solutions. The EIC Scaling Club is a community of more than 120 high-potential European technology companies. The network provides a platform for companies to connect with investors, mentors, and partners, facilitating collective growth.

According to **GeneCode's CEO, Paavo Pilv**, joining the club is a significant boost to achieving the company's goals. "Joining the EIC Scaling Club is a great recognition for us. It offers a unique opportunity to build connections with top European entrepreneurs in our field and accelerate growth with the guidance of mentors," he said, adding that membership also strengthens the company's market position and improves access to investments.

Recently, GeneCode was also included in the list of Estonia's seven most prominent biotechnology companies by Europe's leading biotech news portal Labiotech. GeneCode stood out with its product programme, which includes drug candidates targeting diseases such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), retinitis pigmentosa (RP), inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), and Parkinson's disease (PD). These drug candidates are designed to slow disease progression by promoting the survival and function of nerve cells.

One of GeneCode's main goals is to revolutionize the treatment of Parkinson's disease. "The uniqueness of the drug lies in its ability to protect and restore dopamine neurons, providing a solution for both motor and non-motor symptoms," explained **Professor Mart Saarma, Member of the Board of Directors of GeneCode**, adding that the company's team works daily to bring disease-modifying treatments to market. "The treatments available today alleviate the symptoms of diseases, but they do not cure or address the root causes. Our goal is to find a cure for these diseases," he said.

Recently, GeneCode also received support from Enterprise Estonia for project "Kevad Bio" study plan to create Proof of Concept using GDNF Mimetic Platform for new indications – ALS, RP and IBD. Development is managed in collaboration with French start-up studio ArgoBio.

About GeneCode - www.GeneCode.com

GeneCode is an Estonian pharmaceutical development company that focuses on developing disease-modifying therapeutics to combat neurodegeneration, has developed a GDNF Mimetics platform that leverages the disease-modifying properties of Glial cell line – Derived Neurotrophic Factor GDNF to small molecules with drug-like properties.