



**Press Release**

## **CILCARE ANNOUNCES THE APPOINTMENT OF DR. MELANIE BERTA AS PROJECT MANAGER, DRUG DEVELOPMENT**

**Montpellier - France – November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Cilcare, a clinical-stage biotechnology company specializing in the development of innovative therapies for inner ear disorders, is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Mélanie Berta as Project Manager, Drug development. With a robust background in Pharmaceutical Program Management and Cross-functional Team Leadership, Dr. Berta brings a wealth of expertise to Cilcare’s flagship program, CIL001. In her new role, she will oversee CIL001’s progression to clinical development, ensuring its advancement toward key milestones.**

Dr. Berta holds a Ph.D. in Molecular and Cellular Biology, and further deepened her expertise through a postdoctoral fellowship at Cancer Research UK in London and Cambridge, where she focused on groundbreaking research in epidermal stem cells.

Building on this foundation, she went on to lead a pharmacology team at the research department of Galderma® for over a decade, establishing innovative candidate selection platforms and directing complex studies that strengthened the company’s dermatological pipeline. Her subsequent roles in biotechnology and pharmaceutical development further refined her expertise in clinical trials, cross-functional coordination, and strategic planning, during which she managed key partnerships and developed risk management frameworks, including the supervision of preclinical programs focused on Parkinson’s Disease and Depression. Most recently, her work in a clinical-stage biotech dedicated to hearing disorders underscored her commitment to addressing unmet medical needs in audiology.

In her new role at Cilcare, Dr. Berta will drive the comprehensive project management of CIL001, which includes non-clinical and clinical study oversight, intellectual property, regulatory affairs, and Chemistry, Manufacturing, and Controls (CMC). She will ensure strict adherence to project timelines and budgetary requirements while also being strongly involved in Cilcare’s strategic partnership with Shionogi.



*"We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Mélanie Berta to Cilcare's team," stated Celia BELLINE, CEO. "Her extensive background in pharmaceutical development, combined with her passion for advancing therapies in hearing health, will be invaluable to driving the CIL001 program and other pipeline initiatives forward."*

Dr. Berta, who is a passionate music lover, expressed her enthusiasm for the new role: *"Joining Cilcare aligns my experience with my dedication to advancing solutions in hearing health, a field with enormous medical need. I am excited to help shape the future of auditory care with such a great and motivated Team"*.

Cilcare remains committed to its mission of developing transformative therapies to improve the lives of patients affected by hearing disorders and is confident that Dr. Berta's appointment will significantly enhance the company's progress toward this goal.

**About Cilcare:** Cilcare is a biotech established in 2014, dedicated to harnessing auditory sciences to reshape the future of care via early diagnosis and targeted treatment. Cilcare's mission is to ensure hearing impairments are addressed earlier and with precision, as they are often associated with chronic diseases from their very early stages. As a catalyst in the development of pharmaceuticals, medical devices, gene therapies, and cell therapies for hearing loss and tinnitus, Cilcare is driving transformative breakthroughs.

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