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## **Basel, 2018-12-19 – Cellestia Biotech AG successfully closes Series A financing round, raising a total of CHF 20 million. Melissa Kay Epstein elected to Board of Directors.**

- Financing round led by FC Capital, Shanghai; PPF / Sotio, Prague; ETP Ventures, Boston & Beijing and significant investments by existing and new private investors
- Funds will be used to complete the ongoing Phase I clinical trial and advance R&D pipeline
- First patient data confirm expectations on pharmacokinetics, safety and efficacy
- Melissa Kay Epstein elected to Cellestia's Board of Directors

Cellestia Biotech AG today announces the closing of a CHF 20 million Series A financing round. The new funds will be added to the previous CHF 8 million SEED financing and CHF 1 million non-dilutive research grants, bringing the total capital raised to date by Cellestia to CHF 29 million (USD 29 million). Upon closing of the Series A financing, FC Capital and PPF/Sotio will become major shareholders of Cellestia Biotech AG.

Cellestia is progressing the ongoing clinical development program of CB-103, a first-in-class targeted therapy with a novel mode of action. CB-103 is a highly selective oncogene transcription factor inhibitor for precision medicine treatment of various cancers. It will also allow Cellestia to advance its innovative R&D pipeline activities.

Upon closing of the transaction, Melissa Kay Epstein has also been elected to Cellestia's Board of Directors.

"We thank our existing shareholders for their continued support of Cellestia. It is a great honour for us to welcome both new institutional investors FC Capital and ETP, as well as new private investors in this financing round. The additional capital will enable us to reach important milestones and to continue creating value for our shareholders," commented Michael Bauer, CEO of Cellestia Biotech AG. "In addition, we all very much look forward to working with Melissa Epstein. Her experience and global network in the intellectual property, corporate law and M&A fields strongly complements Cellestia's existing Board of Directors."

"This is an exciting time to become involved with Cellestia. I am proud to join such an experienced management team and a company developing an innovative novel cancer therapy." said Melissa Epstein.

"Cellestia is at the forefront of developing innovative products addressing unmet medical needs in cancer treatment," said Danny Xiang, founder, managing partner at FC Capital. "Under the leadership of an incredible team and with a strategic focus on anti-cancer drugs modulating the NOTCH signalling pathway, Cellestia is uniquely positioned to realize the potential of this modality to impact patients across the globe."

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **About FC Capital**

FC Capital is a China-based private equity firm specializing in healthcare investments in the Greater China region, the US and the European countries. FC Capital focuses in cultivating and investing in early and growth stage sector leaders ranging from pharmaceutical companies to technology and data providers that are aligning with secular growth trends or building innovative solutions to emerging challenges. Its parallel RMB and USD funds target high-quality companies looking for a patient and strategic partner to achieve unprecedented cross-border and long-term success.

### **About PPF/SOTIO**

PPF Group invests into multiple market segments such as banking, financial services, telecommunications, insurance, real estate, agriculture and biotechnology. PPF's reach spans from Europe to Russia, the USA and across Asia. PPF's assets under management totalled to almost EUR 38 billion (as at 30 June 2018). SOTIO is an international biotechnology company spearheading PPF's investment and partnering activities in the biotechnology sector. For more information about PPF and SOTIO visit [www.ppf.eu](http://www.ppf.eu) and [www.sotio.com](http://www.sotio.com).

### **About Cellestia Biotech AG**

Cellestia was founded in 2014 as a spin-off from Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, EPFL. The lead development compound of Cellestia is CB-103, a novel, first-in-class oral pan-NOTCH inhibitor indicated for treatment of patients with NOTCH-dependent leukemias, lymphomas and solid tumors. CB-103 is the first drug to selectively target this pathway at the level of oncogene transcription. Cellestia holds a worldwide exclusive license on the intellectual property rights for CB-103 and related series of analogues, for development and commercialization. The company pursues an integrated approach combining drug and personalized medicine development for patient selection.

### **Media Enquiries**

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