

ARTICA THERAPEUTICS APPOINTS JASON WITHERINGTON AS CHIEF SCIENTIFIC OFFICER

LEIDEN, The Netherlands. – March 25, 2026 – Artica Therapeutics B.V. (Artica), a biotechnology company unlocking the power of covalent medicines, today announced the appointment of Jason Witherington, PhD, as Chief Scientific Officer (CSO). Jason brings more than 25 years of experience in drug development and has held senior leadership roles across the pharma industry. He has an extensive track record of advancing preclinical programs from early discovery stages through pre-clinical development into clinical evaluation. At Artica, Jason will oversee the scientific strategy and guide the advancement of the pipeline of covalent small molecule therapies addressing immunology and inflammatory disorders.

“Jason has a wealth of leadership experience in drug discovery and development, spanning various pharma environments, with deep expertise in the immunology space,” said Tjeerd Barf, Chief Executive Officer of Artica. “His appointment further strengthens the team as we drive our lead covalent therapy programs toward clinical evaluation.”

“Having been on the Artica Scientific Advisory Board, it's a privilege to move to the next phase and join the team as their CSO,” commented Jason. “I am looking forward to work with such a highly experienced team of covalent drug hunters, focused on developing oral therapies for patients suffering from immune mediated disorders”.

Jason joins from Johnson & Johnson where he was Global Head of External Immunology Innovative Medicine, he was responsible for growing the immunology academic and industry network globally and advance external opportunities in the field of immunology. Prior to joining Johnson & Johnson Innovation he worked for Galvani where, as Vice President and Head of Translational Sciences, he was the founding member responsible for establishing a unit in the emerging field of peripheral neuromodulation for controlling immune homeostasis. Prior to this, Jason spent nearly 20 years at GSK in the fields of neurology, oncology and immunology. His most recent role was Vice President and Discovery Performance Unit Head within the immuno-inflammation therapy area unit, responsible for leading multidisciplinary teams to identify and advance projects from early target validation through to clinical proof of concept. He has over 100 peer reviewed publications and patents. Jason received his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the University of Reading, UK, and completed his post-doctoral work in Bioorganic Chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania, USA.

About Artica Therapeutics

Artica Therapeutics is at the forefront of covalent binding technology and dedicated to developing novel and differentiated small molecule medicines for inflammatory and autoimmune indications. Our unique expertise allows rapid progression of the best drug candidates that have unprecedented and superior characteristics, creating novel and highly selective therapies for patients with unmet medical need. Artica raised a €12M seed financing round in November 2023 from BioGeneration Ventures (BGV), Thuja Capital, Seroba, and InnovationQuarter. More information is available at www.artica-tx.com.

Company Contact:

Dr. Tjeerd Barf, CEO Artica Therapeutics B.V.

Email: info@artica-tx.com