**Dupixent – Prix Galien 2021**

**SECTION 5: INNOVATION (300 words max)**

**Current Word Count: 299**

Dupixent (dupilumab) is the first and only approved biologic that simultaneously inhibits IL-4 and IL-13.2 Notably, it has succeeded where prior efforts – by some of the largest biotech companies – had utterly and completely failed; these high-profile failures resulted in a loss of interest in IL-4 and IL-13. Moreover, the dupilumab discovery required development of an entirely new technology – the VelocImmune ® HumAb platform. If these efforts had not been undertaken, and if dupilumab had not been brought forward, the world would still be in the dark on the fundamental shared drivers of type 2 inflammatory conditions. In fact, the many clinical studies with dupilumab – across multiple atopic and allergic conditions – provide the first definitive proof that IL-4 and IL-13 are indeed key and central drivers of type 2 inflammation, and of the most prominent type 2 diseases, including asthma and atopic dermatitis.

Dupixent is a rare example of a true “first-in-class” breakthrough in medicine, and even a rarer example of a breakthrough therapeutic that can effectively treat multiple previously uncontrollable serious diseases, collectively affecting millions of people. Unfortunately, type 2 inflammatory diseases have been reaching epidemic levels, and prior to Dupixent, physicians and patients had few weapons to fight back. Now, the millions of patients with serious asthma, atopic dermatitis and CRSwNP have an FDA-approved breakthrough medicine that is proven to work where previously available last-line therapies – such as systemic steroids and surgery – have failed. Moreover, dupilumab provides hope for the many millions more who suffer from type 2 inflammatory conditions which currently lack effective therapies, such as eosinophilic esophagitis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease with evidence of type 2 inflammation, bullous pemphigoid, prurigo nodularis, chronic spontaneous urticaria, food and environmental allergies. Hopefully, ongoing studies in these conditions will confirm that these patients will also have new hope in dupilumab.

*References*

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3. Data on file.

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