# F-star Therapeutics Announces Data on Potent Anti-Tumor Activity of FS120 Published in Cancer Immunology Research

**FS120 delays tumor growth by improving the activation and proliferation of peripheral T-cells**

**Data shows superiority of dual agonist targeting over alternative TNFR-targeting agonists**

**Study supports the clinical development of FS120 for the treatment of cancer**

**Cambridge, UK and Cambridge, MA, April 9, 2020 –** F-star Therapeutics Ltd., a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on transforming the lives of patients with cancer through the development of innovative tetravalent bispecific (mAb$^{2}$™) antibodies, today announces the publication of preclinical data on the potent anti-tumor activity of FS120, a first-in-class dual-agonist tetravalent bispecific antibody targeting CD137 and OX40, in leading peer-reviewed journal *Cancer Immunology Research*.

Preclinical data from the article show that FS120 delays tumor growth by improving the activation and proliferation of peripheral T cells. These data also reinforce the superiority of dual agonist targeting over alternative TNFR-targeting agonists and support the clinical development of FS120 to treat patients with cancer.

FS120 is a first-in-class dual agonist bispecific antibody that has the potential to address 'cold' tumors and overcome cancer resistance by simultaneously targeting CD137 (4-1BB) and OX40 (CD134, TNFRSF4), two receptors which are part of the Tumor Necrosis Factor Receptor family (TNFRSF) of receptors and broadly expressed on activated T-cells and NK cells. Most (TNFRSF) -targeting antibodies require cross-linking via Fcγ receptors (FcγRs), which can limit their clinical activity and lead to undesirable toxicity effects. Preclinical data from this study show that FS120 can activate both $CD4^{+}$ and $CD8^{+}$ T-cells in an FcγR-independent mechanism, therefore promoting focused immune stimulation. FS120 is currently a clinical stage program, with the investigational new drug application being accepted by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) earlier this year.

In this study, FS120 showed greater anti-tumor activity than a combination of CD137 and OX40 agonists, which was associated with activation and proliferation of $CD4^{+}$ and $CD8^{+}$ T-cells independently of FcγR interaction. Furthermore, FS120 induced lower levels of liver T-cell infiltration when compared to a crosslink-independent CD137 agonist monoclonal antibody.

A link to the full study can be found here .

**Neil Brewis, CSO of F-star, said**: *"Driven by the open IND filed earlier this year, these data are a great validation of F-star's tetravalent bispecific technology and a further endorsement for the clinical development of FS120. FS120 exhibits disruptive activity in cold tumors and has been shown to successfully induce T-cell activation in an FcγR-independent manner, which can potentially display broader clinical activity, likely to be used in a combination drug therapy, compared to already existing*

*compounds. This is an exciting time for us as we continue to develop our pipeline and progress our research towards improving treatment outcomes for patients with difficult-to-treat cancers."*

**About F-star Therapeutics Ltd**

F-star is a leading clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company delivering tetravalent bispecific antibodies for a paradigm-shift in cancer therapy. By developing medicines that seek to block tumor immune evasion, the Company's goal is to offer patients greater and more durable benefits than current immuno-oncology treatments. Through its proprietary tetravalent, bispecific antibody (mAb²™) format, F-star is generating first- and best-in-class drug candidates with monoclonal antibody-like manufacturability. Building on the combined expertise of its world-class management team and scientific leadership, F-star is poised to deliver the next breakthrough immunotherapies for patients with cancer. For more information visit www.f-star.com.

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**For further information, please contact:**

**For investor enquiries**
**Lindsey Trickett**
VP Investor Relations & Communications
+1 240 543 7970
lindsey.trickett@f-star.com

**For media enquiries**
**Consilium Strategic Communications**
Chris Gardner, Sue Stuart, David Daley
Tel: +44 (0)20 3709 5700
E-mail: F-star@consilium-comms.com