

## Nanoparticle to fight cancer developed at UC gets designation of Orphan drugs



PEGASEMP, a new generation lipid-based nanoparticle to fight cancer, developed at the University of Coimbra (UC), obtained the status of "orphan drug" from the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and from the American regulatory authority (FDA) for the treatment of malignant mesothelioma, a rare type of cancer that results from exposure to asbestos. This status facilitates a clinical trial in patients.

"Orphan drugs" are drugs aimed at the diagnosis or treatment of serious rare diseases, identified as orphan diseases, which affect a small number of people compared to the general population.

The attribution of EMA and FDA is the result of several and complex studies carried out over several years at the Center for Neuroscience and Cell Biology (CNC) of the University of Coimbra (UC) and in collaboration with national and foreign research centers, under the leadership of João Nuno Moreira, professor and researcher at the CNC and Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Coimbra (FFUC).

More information [here](#)

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Image: Part of the project team - João Nuno Moreira and Nuno Fonseca

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