

Overview

MerLion Pharmaceuticals is a biopharma company focusing on the research and development of drugs for the treatment of serious bacterial infections.

MerLion - located in Berlin-Buch, Germany - manages the non-clinical and clinical development as well as active pharmaceutical ingredient and drug product development and manufacturing.

Our pipeline includes the antibiotics finafloxacin and friulimicin.



Finafloxacin is a new generation, safe fluoroquinolone with very unique properties. The drug is highly active against a broad spectrum of pathogens and is ideally suited for the treatment of serious infections requiring hospitalization, like urinary tract infections. Finafloxacin has also shown in different animal models strong activity against several bacteria classified by the US CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) as category A and B biothreat pathogens. Furthermore, the otic suspension of finafloxacin (Xtoro™) has already received market approval by the US FDA and Health Canada.

Friulimicin is a naturally occurring, cyclic lipopeptide with excellent activity against gram-positive pathogens, including multidrug-resistant pathogens. Though friulimicin shares structural and potency features with daptomycin, an antibiotic used in humans, it has a distinct, unique mode of action. The tolerability of friulimicin was shown to be excellent in animal studies, though phase I clinical studies revealed human-specific kinetic and toxicologic challenges. Consequently, MerLion decided to exclusively explore animal health applications for friulimicin.

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