



## Press Release

### **SysBioSim and CWI Join Forces to Improve Drug Development for Devastating Kidney Diseases**

Leiden and Amsterdam; November 1, 2016 – SysBioSim, a systems biology simulations and bio-modeling company, and Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica (CWI), the Dutch national research center for mathematics and computer science, have announced a new partnership focusing on the improvement of drug development for Kidney Fibrosis. The partnership will merge SysBioSim’s strong signaling and metabolic pathway modeling as well as simulation capabilities with CWI’s existing cell-based modeling techniques. SysBioSim and CWI aim to support pharmaceutical companies in developing more reliable and efficient drugs against kidney fibrosis.

SysBioSim CEO Basak Tektemur Altay comments “We are very excited about entering a collaboration with CWI to further develop our ground-breaking technologies and capabilities. We trust this collaboration will yield in the technologies that will improve the lives of millions of kidney patients. Kidneys are crucial as regulatory organs. According to the EMA reports, renal diseases are devastating and have a major impact on public health. Scientists estimate renal diseases to reach pandemic proportions over the next few decades. Together with CWI, our aim is to develop computational modeling and simulation based solutions to improve the drug development process for renal diseases starting with kidney fibrosis. I trust our unique approach and combination of capabilities in this collaboration is the key to developing a platform that pharmaceutical companies can directly use and patients can benefit from very quickly, despite, in general, the lengthy drug development process.”

“Kidney failure, including fibrosis, is prevalent as a primary disease, but it is also a common side-effect of long-term pharmaceutical treatment,” adds CWI Senior Researcher and Leiden University professor Roeland Merks. “CWI’s multi-scale modeling strategies will help predict how pharmacologically active compounds can change the structure of kidney tissues in a potentially harmful way. Rather than focusing on individual molecules and pathways, we also model the dynamics of tissue remodeling, thus helping to unravel the effect of a pharmaceutical on the whole tissue. This innovative aspect makes multi-scale models a key interest to public health and the pharmaceutical industry. I believe our collaboration with SysBioSim will contribute to the development of these much needed new strategies.”

#### **About SysBioSim**

As a dynamic and energetic company located in Leiden, SysBioSim offers various Systems Biology services via state of the art modeling, specially designed platforms and detailed simulations for various fields of life sciences. The company and the team are dedicated to offering smart and fast solutions to clients from the pharmaceutical industry, health and food

ingredients and functional food industries, and academia for their research and development projects as well as needs. Our services help our partners to better design their research and development programs, to better allocate their resources within their programs and to achieve desired results faster. We are committed to offering high-quality services and custom solutions to our partners.

### **About Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica (CWI)**

Founded in 1946, Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica (CWI) is the national research institute for mathematics and computer science in the Netherlands. It is located at Amsterdam Science Park and is part of the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO). The institute is internationally focused and renowned. Over 150 researchers conduct pioneering research and share their acquired knowledge with society. Over 30 researchers are also employed as professors at universities. The institute has generated twenty-three spin-off companies.

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