

## PRESS RELEASE

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Lyon, 5 November 2020

### **Alongside its senior managers, Turenne Santé acquires ABL Lyon from Institut Mérieux, creating a new entity named Active Biomarkers.**



**ABL Lyon, a subsidiary of Institut Mérieux and a benchmark laboratory in biomarker analysis, is acquired by Turenne Santé via its private equity fund Capital Santé 2. Alongside its general manager, Marc Essodaigui, and the management team, Turenne Santé is positioning itself as majority shareholder in order to provide the company with significant resources to finance an ambitious development plan. ABL Lyon has been renamed Active Biomarkers.**

Founded in 2011, ABL Lyon, now renamed Active Biomarkers, is an integrated bioanalytical laboratory with biomarker and cell-based assay testing capabilities. The company supports multiple biopharmaceutical companies in their clinical research programmes (Phases I to IV).

Positioned in a dynamic market and renowned for the quality of its services and the expertise of its team, the company has been managed by Marc Essodaigui since 2016 and has significantly increased revenue by specialising in well-targeted therapeutic fields such as oncology, infectious diseases, inflammatory pathologies and neurodegenerative diseases.

This deal will enable Active Biomarkers to pursue its dynamic growth by gaining new customers, while strengthening existing commercial partnerships. It will also enable it to boost significantly its production and R&D capacity, to strengthen its portfolio of proprietary assays, and to evaluate external growth opportunities.

This majority investment completes the fourth operation of the private equity fund Capital Santé 2. After an initial closing at €100m, Capital Santé 2 has already received over €145m in subscriptions, increasing its hardcap from €150m to €165m with final closing on 31 December 2020. The strategy of Capital Santé 2 is to support the growth of profitable French SMEs and mid-market companies in the healthcare sector.

**Marc Essodaigui, General Manager of Active Biomarkers**, explains: *"This operation marks a major milestone in our company's development and is a tribute to the energy and commitment of our team over the past years. It is with pride and enthusiasm that we are committed alongside Turenne Santé to establishing Active Biomarkers as a global player in clinical biomarkers."*

**Mounia Chaoui and Paul Chamoulaud, Partners at Turenne Santé**, explain: *"We are delighted to support the entire ABL Lyon team in this operation. The company newly renamed Active Biomarkers is positioned in a fast-growing market. The know-how of the teams and their commercial dynamism should enable them to seize numerous opportunities for both organic and external growth."*

## PARTICIPANTS

Investors	<b>Turenne Santé</b> – Mounia Chaoui, Paul Chamoulaud, Sophie Canetos
Legal advisory & audit	<b>Jeantet</b> – Thierry Brun, Maxime Brotz, Maria Placki
Financial audit advisory	<b>Aequifi</b> – Nicolas Pesson, Robin Ansart
Seller's financial advisory	<b>CFI Group</b> - Yann Quentrec, Xing Liu
Managers' legal advisory	<b>Viajuris</b> – Alek Klioua

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## PRESS CONTACTS

### Marc Essodaigui

[marc.essodaigui@abl-immuno.com](mailto:marc.essodaigui@abl-immuno.com)

04 37 70 87 00

### Josepha Montana

[jmontana@turennecapital.com](mailto:jmontana@turennecapital.com)

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## ABOUT ACTIVE BIOMARKERS (formerly ABL Lyon)

**Founded in 2011, Active Biomarkers** is an integrated bioanalytical laboratory offering a wide range of in-vitro immunology services, including soluble and cellular biomarker analyses for clinical studies.. Operating in BSL2 facilities, and GCLP/ISO 9001:2015 environment, the company currently employs 30 people bringing a wealth of experience in the development, validation, and implementation of analytical methods. Its know-how is recognised in 4 major therapeutic areas: oncology, infectious diseases, inflammatory pathologies, and neurodegenerative diseases. Beyond its state-of-the-art flow cytometry and ELISpot capabilities, Active Biomarkers offers the broadest panel of immunoassay technologies in Europe, ranging from standard ELISA to multiplexed methods such as Luminex, SP-X or ELLA systems, or ultra-sensitive technologies such as MSD or Simoa HD-1.

[www.abl-immuno.com](http://www.abl-immuno.com)

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## ABOUT TURENNE GROUPE

**With more than €250m under management, including over €145m in the Capital Santé 2 private equity fund currently being raised, Turenne Santé supports healthcare companies in their development and transmission challenges.**

**Turenne Groupe**, one of France's leading private equity firms, has been supporting entrepreneurs for 20 years in their innovation, development and business transfer projects. An independent operator, the group has **€1 billion** under management as at 30 June 2020. Its teams of 65 professionals, including 49 investors, based in Paris, Lille (Nord Capital Partenaires), Lyon, Marseille and Metz, support 260 business leaders in the sectors of health, hotels, new technologies, distribution and innovative services.

As an **engaged investor**, Turenne Groupe actively supports its portfolio companies in their CSR approach. As a responsible company, it supports the charity Banlieue Sans Frontières en Action (BSFA), which aims to improve the living conditions of suburban residents through professional integration, and finances and runs the Fondation pour l'Innovation Thérapeutique Béatrice Denys, which supports the most successful projects in French academic medical research designed to found new companies.

[www.turennecapital.com](http://www.turennecapital.com)