

Ysios Capital wins CataloniaBio & HealthTech Biosuccess Award

CataloniaBioHT also recognised the career of Antonio Parente

The awards were given out yesterday by Catalan Minister of Health Alba Vergés at the CataloniaBioHT Gala Dinner at the Sant Pau Art Nouveau Site

The event attracted more than 200 entrepreneurs, executives and investors from the health and biomedicine arena in Catalonia

Barcelona, 8 March 2019 – [CataloniaBio & HealthTech](#) has given the [Biosuccess Award](#) to the [Ysios Capital](#) fund for the milestones achieved in 2018 in the **healthcare and biomedicine arena in Catalonia**, and an honorary award to Antonio Parente recognising his career in business. The awards ceremony was held yesterday at the CataloniaBio & HealthTech Gala Dinner at the Sant Pau Art Nouveau Site in Barcelona and attended by Catalan Minister of Health Alba Vergés and more than 200 entrepreneurs, executives and investors in the sector.

The panel of judges valued **Ysios' investment in the main operations in the sector** in 2018 (STAT-Dx and Minoryx Therapeutics), as well as its more than decade-long commitment to early-stage companies with investments ranging from €1 million to €7 million. Since 2018, Ysios **has closed two funds with a total of €191 million** (Ysios BioFund I and Ysios BioFund II Innvierte) and is currently working on its third fund. Ysios has also been key in bringing [BioEquity](#), the main European investment congress in biomedicine, to Barcelona for the first time this May.

Joël Jean-Mairet, co-founder and managing partner of Ysios, accepted the award from Minister Alba Vergés. "We truly appreciate this recognition of our work as catalysts to dynamise and boost the sector. When we first started in 2008, there weren't any specialised investors, hardly any companies were being created and, despite the scientific potential, getting funding for the few that were started was a real challenge," explained Joël Jean-Mairet. Ten years later, "We have success

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stories and international recognition. **We're proud to have contributed to the growth of this key sector for society and will continue supporting it in order to make the most of its potential,**" he added.

Additionally, CataloniaBioHT recognised Antonio Parente for his business career. In 1987, Parente co-founded the Lipotec group, which was sold years later in one of the first big operations in the then young Catalan biotech sector. In 2006, with a group of other entrepreneurs, he created CataloniaBio (now CataloniaBio & HealthTech). He is currently on the board of directors at several companies, including [GP Pharm](#), [BCN Peptides](#) and [Specipig](#), and **is promoting new projects like Sepsia Therapeutics**, which is developing new cell and biological therapies for sepsis.

Previous editions of the award have gone to Oryzon (2015), Minoryx Therapeutics and Palobiofarma (2016), STAT-Dx and Mosaic Biomedicals (2017), Anaconda Biomed and Mind the Byte (2018).

Jaume Amat: "We must consolidate Catalonia as an international hub in healthcare and biomedicine, and CataloniaBioHT must lead the business fabric"

At the Gala Dinner, President of CataloniaBioHT Jaume Amat spoke to the members, stressing: **"We have a privileged 360° view of the sector because, as an association, we bring together the whole valorisation cycle:** knowledge generators (universities, research centres and hospitals); start-ups, SMEs and large corporations developing products; the whole network of companies offering science and non-science services; and the users.

"We have to harness this to advance development of innovative, transformative solutions to **consolidate Catalonia as an international hub** for research, healthcare and business," continued Amat. In this regard, there are key players like [Biocat](#) and ACCIÓ **"and here at CataloniaBioHT our job is to lead business positioning."**

Catalan Minister Alba Vergés: "The Government is inclined towards a productive model where the presence of the industrial fabric is crucial"

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At the conclusion, Catalan Minister of Health Alba Vergés said that "the government is leaning towards a productive model where the presence of the industrial fabric is crucial in the creation of wealth." For this reason, investment in research and innovation will continue to be promoted with actions such as the **PERIS call, which will be endowed with 38 million euros in 2019** (9 million more than 2017-2018) and **innovative public procurement**.

The Night of CataloniaBio & HealthTech has the support of [BStartup of Banco Sabadell](#), [Genesis Biomed](#) and [ACCIÓ](#) (Government of Catalonia).

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About CataloniaBio & HealthTech

[CataloniaBio & HealthTech](#) is the association of companies in the biomedicine and health arena in Catalonia. Its mission is to promote research, development and innovation (R&D&i) to help the business fabric generate new products and services in biopharmaceuticals, medical technology and digital health to improve people's wellbeing. The association was created in 2017 through the merger of CataloniaBio and the HealthTech Cluster. It currently has more than 150 member companies (start-ups, SMEs and large corporations) and collaborating agents, including leading hospitals, research centres and universities. Its strategic focal points are entrepreneurship, innovation and networking.

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More information:

CataloniaBio & HealthTech
Gemma Escarré (Communications Manager)
M. 667 76 15 24
comunicacio@cataloniabioht.org

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