Promethera Biosciences is a pharmaceutical company that develops innovative therapies for the treatment of orphan liver disease.

Based on researches supported by Wallonia since 2003, this UCL spin-off company was founded in 2009 by Pr E. Sokal, leader of UCL-IREC/PEDI, and E. Halioua.

The company has been developing HepaStem, a cell therapy product based on the use of allogeneic stem cells isolated from healthy adult human livers. These cells can be used to treat a wide variety of liver diseases, from rare inborn metabolic diseases to acquired deficiencies such as liver fibrosis. HepaStem is currently being tested in phase I/II clinical trial, in Europe and Israel, for the treatment of two orphan indications. Since Promethera was set up in 2009, it has raised close to EUR 40 million in two financial rounds (capital and grants/loans from Wallonia), with major foreign investors.

**Next step:** start phase IIB clinical trial with HepaStem product in Urea Cycle Disorders (UCD) diseases

Enrolment of first patient in phase I/II clinical trial | 2012
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GMP accreditation of the manufacturing pilot plan | 2011
Spin-off creation | February 2009
First Spin-Off grant | 2006
Research project beginning | 2003

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