

Manufacturing agreement with AGC Biologics accelerates COVID-19 vaccine program

Hørsholm, Denmark, April 24, 2020 – AdaptVac, a PREVENT-nCoV consortium member, announces signing of agreement with AGC Biologics for manufacture and scale-up of the COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) Coronavirus vaccine. This agreement leverages AGC Biologics global manufacture expertise to accelerate the development and GMP manufacture of the SARS-CoV-2 capsid-Virus Like Particle (cVLP) vaccine. This partnership has the potential to advance the initiation of the first clinical trial to the end of 2020.

“The addition of AGC Biologics as partner now completes our consortium of vaccine experts and addresses future large-scale production needs for the COVID-19 vaccine. We are grateful to AGC for providing their world-leading expertise and development support. Their collaboration will ensure vaccine production can happen in the fastest possible time-line.” says Wian de Jongh, AdaptVac’s CEO. “In preparation for positive clinical results, we will now actively pursue partnering with large Biotech/Pharma required to ensure rapid vaccine access for the public”.

“The urgency level to develop and produce a vaccine to combat COVID-19 could not be higher,” says AGC Biologics CEO Patricio Massera. “We are honored to partner with AdaptVac and be part of the consortium team that is working to develop an efficient vaccine. We value collaborative partnerships, and believe working together to fight this pandemic is crucial.”

AGC Biologics

[AGC Biologics](#) is a leading global Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization (CDMO) with a strong commitment to deliver the highest standard of service to clients and partners. The company currently employs more than 900 employees worldwide. AGC Biologics’ global network spans three continents, with cGMP-compliant facilities in Seattle, Washington; Copenhagen, Denmark; Heidelberg, Germany; and Chiba, Japan.

The COVID-19 Coronavirus outbreak

A novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was reported in Wuhan, China in late December 2019 and declared a pandemic by WHO on March 11th, 2020. The COVID-19 Coronavirus is a part of the same family as SARS and MERS, and there have been more than 2.5 million confirmed cases and over 169 000 deaths reported as of April 20th, 2020. The latest situation updates are available on the WHO web page: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>.

The PREVENT-nCoV consortium

[On 6th March, 2020](#), ExpreS²ion announced an EU Horizon 2020 grant award for the COVID-19 vaccine development programme for a consortium, whose members are world-leading experts in their respective fields, covering all relevant areas of viral research and vaccine development required for rapid clinical development of a COVID-19 vaccine. This includes pre-clinical and clinically validated experience from working with similar Coronaviruses such as MERS and SARS, ExpreS²ion’s *Drosophila* S2 insect cell expression system, and AdaptVac’s capsid virus-like particle (cVLP) technology. In addition to [ExpreS²ion](#) and [AdaptVac](#), the consortium members are Leiden University Medical Center ([LUMC](#)), Institute for Tropical Medicine ([ITM](#)) at University of Tübingen, The Department of Immunology and Microbiology ([ISIM](#)) at University of Copenhagen, and the Laboratory of Virology at [Wageningen University](#).

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About AdaptVac

AdaptVac is a joint venture between ExpreS2ion Biotechnologies and NextGen Vaccines, owned by the inventors of the novel proprietary and ground-breaking viral capsid-like virus particle (CLP) platform technology spun out from the University of Copenhagen. The Company aims to accelerate the development of highly efficient therapeutic and prophylactic vaccines within high value segments of oncology, infectious diseases and immunological disorders. Granting of the core patent in the U.S. has expanded AdaptVac's patent protection to include our entire pipeline of vaccines and immunotherapies in development. Please visit: www.AdaptVac.com

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