Press Release, 2021-January-12

Strong preclinical immunization data for the ABNCoV2 cVLP-based COVID-19 vaccine published in *Nature Communications*

Hørsholm, Denmark, January 12, 2021 – AdaptVac, a PREVENT-nCoV consortium member, hereby announces the publication of strong virus neutralization animal proof-of-concept data for its capsid virus like particle (cVLP) based SARS-CoV-2 subunit vaccine in *Nature Communications*. The vaccine elicited antibodies in mice which effectively prevented live SARS-CoV-2 virus from infecting and killing human cells in an *in vitro* assay. The project remains on track for delivery of initial PhI/IIa results in Q1 2021.

The result was obtained through the combined efforts of PREVENT-nCoV consortium partners and Aarhus University. ExpreS^{2}ion Biotechnology produced the SARS-CoV-2 Spike protein variant, while AdaptVac displayed the antigen on its capsid Virus-Like Particle. This was followed by vaccination studies in mice at University of Copenhagen, and finally analysis of the raised antibodies' capability to neutralize live SARS-CoV-2 virus in the lab through *in vitro* studies by the groups of Associate Prof. Marjolein Kikkert, Leiden University Medical Centre and Prof. Søren Riis Paludan, Aarhus University. The article is titled "Capsid-like particles decorated with the SARS-CoV-2 receptor-binding domain elicit strong virus neutralization activity"

*"*Publication of our cVLP vaccine animal proof-of-concept results in the high-impact journal *Nature Communications* once again demonstrates the quality of the research performed by the PREVENT-nCoV consortium and the exceptional promise of this vaccine.*",* said Wian de Jongh, AdaptVac's CEO

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About the PREVENT-nCoV consortium
The consortium is funded by an EU Horizon 2020 grant to develop a COVID-19 vaccine. Further the vaccine development at University of Copenhagen is supported by the Carlsberg Foundation, the Danish research councils and Gudbjørg og Ejnar Honorés Fond. The consortium 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, ExpreS^{2}ion's *Drosophila* S2 insect cell expression system, and AdaptVac's capsid virus-like particle (cVLP) technology. In addition to ExpreS^{2}ion 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, the Laboratory of Virology at Wageningen University, and Radboud university medical center.

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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