

Vaccine developer Verovaccines concludes further pharmaceutical cooperation

(Halle, Germany, 11 Feb. 2020)

- Verovaccines GmbH concludes the second cooperation with an internationally operating veterinary pharmaceutical company
- The cooperation aims at the joint development of a veterinary vaccine based on the proprietary technology platform



Yeast colonies on a culture plate. Photo: Marco Warmuth

The German biotech company Verovaccines GmbH has signed another cooperation agreement with an international veterinary pharmaceutical company. This cooperation aims at the joint development of a veterinary vaccine against a poultry pathogen. Managing Director Dr. Hanjo Hennemann: "This cooperation documents the increasing interest of veterinary pharmaceutical companies in our technology and the ability to develop cost-effective and efficacious subunit vaccines. The collaboration offers both partners the opportunity to use future synergies in the further development, production and approval of animal vaccines". The collaboration expands the vaccine product pipeline of Verovaccines and thus the company's ability to develop further solutions to combat infectious diseases in animal health. Verovaccines has previously entered into a collaboration with another pharmaceutical company and has obtained proof of concept in the target animal in that collaboration.

Technology platform

The vaccines of Verovaccines GmbH are based on a proprietary and patent-protected technology platform using the milk yeast *Kluyveromyces lactis*. Several different immunity-triggering proteins (antigens) can be produced in one yeast cell to generate cost-effective combination vaccines. The vaccines contain complete, killed yeast cells that are heat-stable by freeze-drying and can therefore be stored at room temperature. The technology is validated by proof of concept in three vaccine programs in the respective target animals. Verovaccines is using its broad technology to develop a product pipeline of seven vaccines against pathogens in pigs, cattle, poultry and fish.

About Verovaccines GmbH

Verovaccines GmbH is a spin-off of Prof. Dr. Sven-Erik Behrens, Dr. Hanjo Hennemann and Dr. Martina Behrens from the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg. In addition to the technically qualified and experienced founders, the company has a staff of scientists with expertise in the fields of virology, molecular biology, veterinary medicine and process engineering. Several of the company's own vaccine development programs are funded by the 'Gründungsoffensive Biotechnologie', or GO-Bio for short, of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

Contact us:

VEROVACCINES GmbH

Lydia Hohlstein

Bluecherstrasse 26

06120 Halle/Saale, Germany

E-mail: info@verovaccines.org

Web: www.verovaccines.com; www.verovaccines.org

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About the biotechnology start-up offensive (GO-Bio):

The biotechnology start-up offensive (GO-Bio; <https://go-bio.de/>) is a funding program of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). Researchers from the life sciences who are willing to found their own company receive financial support over a period of up to seven years in order to transfer their innovative ideas from research into an exploitable product and thus into patient applications. Such research approaches from the life sciences with high technological or clinical innovation potential and economic benefit are funded. The BMBF is providing between 20 and 30 million euros for each funding round.



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