

## **ACM Biosciences closes first financing round to accelerate the development of its polymersome vaccine platform and a second-generation COVID-19 vaccine**

- *ACM Biosciences vaccines have been successfully developed against coronavirus in animal health*
- *ACM Biosciences provides a flexible, scalable, easy to manufacture and highly efficacious vaccine platform*

**Basel, 7 April 2021** –ACM Biosciences AG, a Swiss biotechnology company focusing on the development of polymersome-based vaccines, today announced the closing of a first financing round to advance its human vaccines platform and a second-generation Covid-19 vaccine. ACM Biosciences secured the exclusive worldwide license to the proprietary polymersome platform for the development of human infectious disease vaccines from ACM Biolabs Pte Ltd in Singapore, which is a leader in protein vaccines and novel nanoparticle delivery techniques in the oncology and veterinary fields.

Dr Peter Moran, CEO of ACM Biosciences, commented: “With the great results we have seen so far from our technology in animal health, this financing is a key step in our strategy and will provide the necessary financial resources to progress both the COVID-19 vaccine candidate into clinical trials and the mRNA proof of concept stability and immunogenicity study.”

### **Focus on fast, efficient development of clinical vaccine candidates**

The proprietary Artificial Cell Membranes (ACMs) are based on an innovative nanotechnology platform using non-immunogenic polymersomes as its carrier. Through past developments by ACM Biolabs in Singapore, the ACM polymersome platform has been shown to produce a safe and efficacious veterinary vaccine against porcine epidemic diarrhea, a highly contagious and deadly coronavirus in pigs, for which there is no effective commercial vaccine. By working closely together, the Singapore and Swiss entities have developed a protein-based COVID-19 vaccine which shows an excellent immune response in preclinical trials. With the necessary financial resources secured, ACM Biosciences will now accelerate its development of the COVID-19 vaccine candidate and proceed with the running mRNA vaccine proof of concept stability and immunogenicity studies.

Prof Dr Daniel Paris, Medical Director and Head of the Department of Medicine at Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute commented: “ACM Biosciences’ technology has the potential to bring a step-change in manufacturability, and durability of vaccines, something

## Press Release

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which is urgently needed for a long-term solution to COVID-19, but also for other vaccine-preventable diseases. Their preclinical efficacy data are really exciting, and their vaccine candidate should be taken into clinical trials as quickly as possible.”

### **Polymersome platform offers advantages in manufacturability and increases durability of vaccines**

ACM Biosciences technology allows great variability because its polymersome platform is highly customizable and can be made compatible with different vaccine formats, including mRNA and protein antigens. A formulation with polymersomes also enables a vaccine to be delivered intranasally, which is not only a convenient route of administration but can reduce transmissibility by activating mucosal immunity. Furthermore, polymersomes do not suffer from vector neutralizing antibodies, are very stable for easy storage and shipping and do not need a complex cold chain. And they can be manufactured cost-effective and with scale. As such, the platform allows quick adjustability to new strains and is well suited for repetitive use and applications.

Prof Dr Onur Boyman, Professor and Chair of the Department of Immunology at the University of Zurich added: “ACM Biosciences’ next-generation vaccines can readily be adapted to emerging mutant viruses, which is crucial to control infection with SARS-CoV-2 and with other viral diseases.”

### **For inquiries**

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### **About ACM Biosciences**

ACM Biosciences was incorporated in Basel, Switzerland, in 2020 as the human infectious disease vaccine company of ACM Biolabs, which is based in Singapore, a leader in protein vaccines and novel nanoparticle delivery techniques in the oncology and veterinary fields. ACM Biosciences is dedicated to the development of infectious disease vaccines using the proprietary ACM polymersome platform technology. These artificial cell membranes (ACM) are nanoscale vesicles that are conceptually very similar to liposomes and have shown to have numerous advantages for both veterinary and human vaccines, including viral, bacterial, and oncological diseases. ACM Biosciences is now accelerating a COVID-19 vaccine into clinical trials. For further information, please visit: [www.acmbiosciences.com](http://www.acmbiosciences.com)