



FINAL
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Coridon Announces Approval for HSV-2 Vaccine Clinical Trial

- Professor Ian Frazer AC leading Coridon program

Brisbane, Australia, 1 July 2013: University of Queensland spin-off company Coridon Pty Ltd has received ethical approval to commence a Phase I clinical trial in Brisbane. The Coridon HSV-2 Vaccine targets genital herpes infection - a major unmet medical need.

Professor Ian Frazer is developing the first in class vaccine for HSV-2 genital herpes, which affects up to 1 in 8 Australians, and for which there is currently no curative treatment. The vaccine technology utilises a patented optimisation technology that offers the potential of being both a preventative and therapeutic vaccine.

The vaccine will be administered via intradermal injection into the forearms of twenty healthy volunteers. The outcomes of the Phase I trial will demonstrate the vaccine's safety and how well tolerated it is, as well as determining the effective dose and showing that the vaccine generates a robust immune response.

"This is the beginning of an exciting period for our herpes vaccine. We have seen very encouraging results from animal studies and we expect pivotal data showing that our vaccine, which incorporates our patented optimisation technology, to produce similar immune responses in the clinic," said Professor Frazer.

The Phase I clinical trial will be undertaken through Q-Pharm Pty Ltd's clinical trial site based at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital. Manager of Medical Services at Q-Pharm and the Principal Investigator for the study is Dr. Paul Griffin FRACP, FRCPA, MBBS, an experienced infectious diseases physician and microbiologist. He is also the Director of Infectious Diseases at Mater Health Services, a major hospital in Brisbane and a Senior Lecturer at the University of Queensland.

We are seeking healthy male and female volunteers, aged 18-45 years, who may be interested in participating in a clinical trial of an investigational vaccine for herpes infection and have never had a cold sore. Recruitment of volunteers is expected to start in July and dosing of subjects in the clinical trial to commence in August/September this year.

If you are interested in participating in this trial, then contact Q-Pharm on 1300 774 276 or email volunteers@qpharm.com.au for full details or visit www.qpharm.com.au.

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About Genital Herpes

Genital herpes affects more than 1 in 6 Americans between ages 14 and 49 according to the Centers for Disease Control in the USA. This disease often results in recurrent painful sores in the genital area. HSV-2 is the major causative agent of genital herpes. As well as pain and discomfort to infected individuals, the virus can have serious health implications for babies born to infected women. Herpes is also believed to aid in the transmission of HIV. Current herpes treatment involves the use of antiviral drugs which can reduce, but not eliminate, outbreaks and shedding and therefore do not prevent spread of the disease. WHO estimates the number of people aged 15–49 years who are living with HSV-2 worldwide exceeds half a billion. According to research reported in Biomed Central's journal BMC Infectious Diseases, the economic burden of genital HSV infection and resulting complications has been estimated to be greater than \$1 billion annually in the USA alone.

The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, ranks HSV-2 as one of seven sexually transmitted diseases of public health importance to authorities. Leading infectious disease expert, Professor Tony Cunningham, Director of the Westmead Millennium Institute and Research Centre, Westmead Hospital, Sydney conducted a nationwide survey in 1999-2000 and found 1 in 8 Australians has genital herpes.

About Coridon

Coridon was founded in 2000 by the founder inventor Prof Ian Frazer as a private unlisted company, to develop and commercialise patented technology for improving immune responses to DNA vaccines licensed by UniQuest Pty Ltd and developed at the University of Queensland. The company has laboratories within the Translational Research Institute at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane, working in collaboration with the University of Queensland's Diamantina Institute. The company's overall objective is to utilise its unique optimisation technology to produce prophylactic and/or therapeutic DNA vaccines for a range of infectious diseases and cancers in humans. Product development is currently focused on herpesvirus vaccines.

About Coridon's optimisation technology

Coridon has 6 granted US patents protecting its codon optimisation DNA technology, which enhances protein expression in the cell or tissue targeted and results in an improved humoral response. The second component of the technology, also patent protected, is to use a mixture of DNAs encoding ubiquitinated and non ubiquitinated proteins. This strategy enhances the degradation of the protein and optimises T cell responses, while preserving structural epitopes necessary for B cells responses, resulting in vaccines with prophylactic and therapeutic potential.