

Hope for the elderly in the corona pandemic – First participants receive VPM1002 in a late-stage phase III clinical trial in Germany

June 23, 2020

HANOVER – Vakzine Projekt Management GmbH (VPM) announces that the first participants have been enrolled last week in the phase III trial to test the efficacy of the vaccine candidate VPM1002 in preventing COVID-19 and other respiratory diseases. The large-scale, multicentre clinical trial has started in Berlin and will soon be rolled out to other sites in Germany. The clinical trial will include elderly participants.

Thanks to its broad spectrum of protection and to the prompt availability of the product, showing the efficacy of VPM1002 will be a fundamental step in flattening the curve of the current COVID-19 pandemic and will constitute a strategic advantage for the future: the mechanism of action of VPM1002 is thought to guarantee protection against future viral pandemics or in case of mutations in the current Sars-CoV2 virus, which might impair the efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines currently under development.

VPM1002 is manufactured by the world’s largest vaccine manufacturer, the Serum Institute of India in collaboration with the Vakzine Projekt Management GmbH (VPM) from Hanover, Germany. The vaccine candidate was originally developed against tuberculosis (TB) by Prof. Stefan H.E. Kaufmann from the Max Planck Institute for Infection Biology in Berlin. The vaccine provides more effective protection against TB than the standard BCG vaccination. Recent trials have shown that VPM1002 can also be effective against cancer and prevent recurrence of bladder tumours.

The improved safety profile and effectiveness of VPM1002 raise hope that the new vaccine can also alleviate the symptoms of an infection from SARS-CoV-2. “This vaccine can be made available instantly as soon we have positive results. VPM1002 can be manufactured using state-of-the-art manufacturing methods which would make millions of doses available”, says Adar C. Poonawalla, CEO and Executive Director, Serum Institute of India.

In this clinical trial participants are randomly allocated into two trial groups, receiving either VPM1002 or Placebo. The main goal is to assess the reduction of days with severe respiratory infectious diseases at hospital and/or at home. In total 2038 subjects 60 years or older will be recruited for this clinical trial.

About Vakzine Projekt Management GmbH

VPM is a development consulting firm for the biopharmaceutical industry. What is unique about VPM is that it began as a project management organisation, successfully developing and out-licensing three out of five proprietary products sourced from academic laboratories. Having mastered these value points, VPM now offers consulting services for the entire product development value chain. Based on its own in-depth experience and unique history having developed product candidates themselves, VPM offers regulatory consultancy, project management, due diligence & valuation, organizational & quality management and can act as a designated sponsor.

www.vpm-consult.com

Contacts

Dr. Leander Grode
Tel: +49 511 16 99 08 19
info@vakzine-manager.de