

MEDIA RELEASE

The Australian Biotech company Aus Bio Limited provides hope for control of influenza

SAN FRANCISCO - 10 January 2018 – Aus Bio a Melbourne based Biotech company working with internationally recognized influenza expert Professor Lorena Brown from the University of Melbourne under a contracted research program today released additional results from the company's pre-clinical influenza program. This data continues to demonstrate the high potency and efficacy of Aus Bio's anti-influenza drug candidates to both prevent and treat influenza infections. Professor Brown had previously presented earlier influenza results at the Global Virus Network Meeting which was held in Melbourne in late September 2017.

Australia experienced a particularly bad influenza season last year with thousands of influenza related hospitalisations.

At the Global Virus Network Meeting Professor Brown stated "This preclinical research is very promising. Our results have indicated that the Aus Bio anti-influenza compounds are extremely potent and have long lasting effectiveness against a wide range of influenza A and B viruses, including those of the subtype H3N2 that predominated in Australia this year." Recently on 27th December 2017 The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) distributed via the CDC Health Alert Network a note that "In the past, A (H3N2) virus – predominant influenza seasons have been associated with more hospitalizations and deaths in persons aged 65 years and older and young children compared to other age groups."

While influenza vaccines remain the cornerstone of controlling influenza infections in the community, antiviral treatments are also vital. Antivirals complement vaccination programs by treating influenza and helping to stop the spread of new influenza strains that have changed since the vaccine was prepared.

The new anti-influenza drug compounds created by Aus Bio scientists control and stop influenza infections in a completely new way by disabling the influenza virus before it enters the respiratory cell. A single shot 12 days before infection completely prevents the disease in preclinical models. In addition, while currently used antivirals need to be given twice daily for several days starting within 48 hours of an influenza infection, University of Melbourne scientists have shown in well validated preclinical models that the Aus Bio drug candidates will effectively treat influenza infections when given once only even 72 hours after infection has occurred.

"As the influenza virus mutates to avoid our defenses, we need to get smarter with our research to reduce the significant disease burden this virus imposes. These preclinical studies are a great example of the ingenuity of the Aus Bio scientists who have developed a novel way to control the infection. I will be delighted to see this translate into better health outcomes for people, particularly the young and old who face the greatest risk of serious complications from influenza," added Professor Brown.

Preclinical results also showed that the drug compounds are highly effective against the avian influenza viruses H5N1 and H7N9, both of which have pandemic potential.



With the support of Aus Bio's shareholders and the Commonwealth Government Research and Development Tax Incentive Scheme, Aus Bio scientists will continue their work to create a one dose treatment regimen which effectively and promptly controls influenza infection and significantly improves patient outcomes.

About Aus Bio

Aus Bio Ltd. is a public, but unlisted, Melbourne based biotechnology research and development company. It develops innovative research programs to create new therapeutic products for specific disease states. Aus Bio is uniquely placed to develop the next generation therapeutics to combat influenza as Aus Bio's senior scientists were closely involved, with others, in the design and synthesis of the first neuraminidase inhibitor. Aus Bio aims to design and synthesise new anti-influenza compounds that will result in improved therapeutic outcomes.

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References

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3. CDC Health Alert Network December 27th 2017