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**MEDIA RELEASE**

## **PHARMANIAGA TO PROCESS FILL AND FINISH PNEUMOCOCCAL CONJUGATE VACCINE IN MALAYSIA**

**SHAH ALAM, 26 October 2020:** Pharmaniaga Berhad (Pharmaniaga) and Serum Institute of India Private Limited (SERUM) will collaborate to make available an affordable Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) in Malaysia.

The vaccine is intended for the use of infants and toddlers aged between six weeks to two years old as a prevention from the invasive disease caused by the bacterium *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (pneumococcus) or pneumococcal disease with outcomes that are serious and potentially fatal.

The collaboration is marked with the recent signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between Pharmaniaga LifeScience Sdn Bhd (PLS), Pharmaniaga's wholly owned subsidiary with SERUM. The sealed partnership will enable PLS to purchase the PCV and subsequently manufacture using the technology and know-how licensed by SERUM for filling and finishing in the form of Pre-Filled Syringes (PFS).

This is a major step towards improving the vaccine's affordability and accessibility in the country. This World Health Organization prequalified vaccine will allow for more children to be protected from debilitating diseases such as Meningitis, Sepsis, Pneumonia and Otitis Media as well as provide us with options in the fight to ensure no child dies from these preventable and treatable diseases.

Pharmaniaga Managing Director, Datuk Zulkarnain Md Eusope said Pneumococcal disease is one of the widespread and devastating but preventable diseases in Malaysia. He believes vaccinations are an important part of public health and through vaccination, some diseases can be effectively prevented and more lives saved.

"I am very happy with the collaboration between Pharmaniaga and SERUM, a true example of a perfect synergy between both companies which are highly reputable with internationally certified facilities that are able to successfully develop and carry out this project.

"Both companies believe that access to a pneumococcal vaccine with adequate coverage of prevalent strains in the country is a priority and are committed to making the vaccine affordable to the public" he said.

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“Moving forward, in our commitment towards becoming the leading global Halal pharmaceutical provider, Pharmaniaga is committed to locally manufacture our own vaccines, which will be Halal and certified by JAKIM” he said.

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**ABOUT PHARMANIAGA BERHAD**

Pharmaniaga Berhad, a member of Boustead Group is an investment holding company listed on the Main Board of Bursa Malaysia. The Pharmaniaga Group’s core businesses are generic pharmaceuticals manufacturing; research and development; marketing and sales; warehousing and distribution of pharmaceutical and medical products; supply, trading and installation of medical and hospital equipment as well as community pharmacy.

With a vision to be the premier Malaysian pharmaceuticals company, Pharmaniaga is guided by its philosophy of ‘doing business with a conscience’ and is empowered by its mission of Passion for Patients. Already operating in 38 sites across 3 countries (Malaysia, Indonesia & Vietnam) the Pharmaniaga Group is positioned to be a regional player in the international pharmaceuticals arena.

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*Issued for Pharmaniaga Group by Corporate Communications Department, Pharmaniaga Berhad.*

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