

PRESS RELEASE
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**PHARMANIAGA, CHINA'S SUZHOU RONNSI PHARMA INK
PARTNERSHIP TO COMMERCIALISE MALAYSIA'S FIRST
HALAL BLOOD ANTI-COAGULANT**

PETALING JAYA, 15 JULY 2022 – Pharmaniaga Berhad (Pharmaniaga) today has entered into a Memorandum of Collaboration (MoC) with China's Suzhou Ronnsi Pharma Co., Ltd (Ronnsi) to commercialise Halal ovine (sheep and goat) anti-coagulant (blood clot thinner) in Malaysia.

This partnership will be a catalyst for Pharmaniaga and Ronnsi to trade routes of its pharmaceutical products, research & development (R&D), and subsequently to perform fill and finish manufacturing of ovine anti-coagulant at Pharmaniaga's high-tech EU-certified plant, Pharmaniaga LifeScience Sdn Bhd (PLS).

The MoC was signed by Pharmaniaga Group Managing Director Datuk Zulkarnain Md Eusope and Ronnsi Chief Executive Officer Mr Yao Yiming. Witnessing the signing was Pharmaniaga Chairman Datuk Seri Zainal Abidin Mohd Rafique, Halal Development Corporation Berhad Chief Executive Officer En. Hairol Ariffein Sahari, Malaysia Genome Vaccine Institute Director Dr Mohd Ghows Mohd Azzam and Ministry of Health Pharmaceutical Services Programme, Pharmacy Practice and Development Division Director Puan Fuziah Abdul Rashid.

Datuk Zulkarnain said the anti-coagulant usage in Malaysia has increased drastically from 2021 to 2022, and the usage has been extended to prevent severe complications of COVID-19 diseases during the pandemic.

"Anti-coagulant is widely used to prevent deep venous thrombosis; a condition of harmful blood clots formed in the blood vessels and is given as prophylaxis (treatment to prevent disease) for planned surgery compared to non-anti-coagulant.

"We see that the anti-coagulant has been in demand due to the rise of COVID-19 cases over the last two years. According to the market forecast captured in IQVIA Data 2021 for anti-coagulant in Malaysian Market Report, a foundation in data specialised across the healthcare ecosystem, it shows that the market is expected to reach 8 million dosage units by 2026¹.

"From 2019 to 2021, the market value for anti-coagulant has increased substantially with a compound annual growth rate of 50%. Potentially addressing the unmet demands for halal pharmaceuticals, halal ovine anti-coagulant has vast opportunity to grow, especially amongst the Muslim populations and countries."

¹ Enoxaparin in Malaysian Market Report - IQVIA Data 2021

Globally, anti-coagulant is made from the extract of the intestine mucosa from a porcine (resembling a pig) source². Two of the world's largest anti-coagulant producers, extract it from the pig intestine and render it for a non-halal market.

"Although the use of anti-coagulant is high globally due to routine procedure in most surgeries, an equal number of doses are used amongst the population in most developed countries. However, the usage of anti-coagulant has been relatively low in Muslim nations due to more porcine sources and less acceptance as preventive therapy.

"Currently, Pharmaniaga is working with Ronnsi to import and eventually manufacture Halal anti-coagulant derived from the ovine source. In tandem, we will submit collating documents to the National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency (NPRA) for its approval soon.

"We shall also submit an application for halal certification to the Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM) for this anti-coagulant product. The ovine anti-coagulant is already certified halal in Indonesia and Hong Kong, thus Insha'Allah we trust JAKIM will give due consideration to the application," he said.

Datuk Zulkarnain added that through this collaboration, Pharmaniaga will be the exclusive product registration holder, marketing and distribution partner with Ronnsi as the product owner and developer.

Pharmaniaga Berhad is the leading pharmaceutical Company of Boustead Holdings Berhad group of companies, and together with Lembaga Tabung Angkatan Tentera, are the major shareholders of the Company.

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About Pharmaniaga Berhad

Pharmaniaga is the leading pharmaceutical company of Boustead Holdings Berhad Group of Companies, which together with the Armed Forces Fund Board, are the major shareholders of the Company. Listed on the Main Board of Bursa Malaysia, Pharmaniaga'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 pharmaceutical company, Pharmaniaga is guided by its philosophy of 'Do It Right Always' and is empowered by its motto of Passion for Patients. Strengthened by nine manufacturing plants, nationwide logistics and distribution in Malaysia and Indonesia as well as products registered in 15 countries, Pharmaniaga Group is positioned to be a regional player in the international pharmaceutical arena.

² <https://patents.google.com/patent/WO2017032276A1/en>

For more information, please log on to <https://pharmaniaga.com/>.

About Suzhou Ronnsi Pharma Co. Ltd

Suzhou Ronnsi Pharma Co., Ltd., (Ronnsi) founded in Suzhou Industrial Park in November 2012, is a leading pharmaceutical company in China focusing on complex drug development including sheep derived purified heparin and ovine (sheep) enoxaparin sodium. Ronnsi has highly skilled scientist with broad and deep expertise in drug development. It has held multiple invention patents related to ovine enoxaparin sodium and other ovine low molecular weight heparin derivatives. Ovine enoxaparin sodium was approved by BPOM (Indonesia FDA) as a biosimilar product in April 2021. Ovine enoxaparin sodium developed by Ronnsi is the first and also the only one non-porcine low molecular weight heparin approved in the world. Working with world renewed heparin scientists, Ronnsi's scientists have published more than 10 scientific papers about complex polysaccharides. Its innovative ovine enoxaparin was commercialised in Indonesia as biosimilar product which will serve the unmet medical needs of the Muslim population. Ronnsi is actively collaborating with international pharmaceutical companies, and is to build the company into the world largest and specialised in ovine heparin drug company. Ronnsi's mission is to gather top scientists to develop first-in-class, best-in-class and clinically unmet medicines for patients.

Forward-looking statement

This release may contain certain forward-looking statements with respect to the financial conditions, results of operations and business of the Group and certain plans and objectives of Pharmaniaga Berhad with respect to these items. By their nature, forward-looking statements involve risk and uncertainty because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that will occur in the future and there are many factors that could cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements.

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