

PRESS RELEASE
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**PHARMANIAGA AND BIONET SIGN RESEARCH
COLLABORATION AGREEMENT FOR CHILDREN'S
HEXAVALENT VACCINE**

KUALA LUMPUR, 13 DECEMBER 2022 – Pharmaniaga LifeScience Sdn Bhd (PLS), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Malaysia's leading pharmaceutical company, Pharmaniaga Berhad (Pharmaniaga), today signed a Research Collaboration Agreement (RCA) with BioNet-Asia Co. Ltd (BioNet) of Thailand for the development of a 6-in-1 combination vaccine (Hexavalent vaccine) for children's healthcare, using BioNet formulation.

This initiative is in line with Pharmaniaga's plan of establishing the world's first Halal vaccine plant. The production of vaccines locally will reduce costs for the Government as well as to ensure drug security for the nation. Hexavalent vaccine is currently used in Malaysia National Immunisation Programme (NIP) and fully imported.

The RCA was signed by Pharmaniaga Group Managing Director Datuk Zulkarnain Md Eusope and BioNet Group President Mr Vitoon Vonghangool; while witnessed by Pharmaniaga Chairman Datuk Seri Zainal Abidin Mohd Rafique and BioNet Chief Executive Officer Dr Hong Thai Pham.

Datuk Zulkarnain said, "The RCA is to kick-start the development process of Hexavalent vaccine in Malaysia where Pharmaniaga and BioNet are involved in developing the combinational vaccine formulation and is scheduled to be ready by the end of 2023.

"Pharmaniaga will proceed in conducting pre-clinical trials and extensive clinical trials to demonstrate the protective immune response with Hexavalent vaccine that protects against six diseases i.e., diphtheria (DT), tetanus (TT), pertussis (aP), poliomyelitis (IPV), *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib), and hepatitis B (Hep-B) diseases.

Datuk Zulkarnain said the Hexavalent vaccine is expected to complete its pre-clinical and clinical development, registration, manufacturing and expected to be commercialised in 2026. Hexavalent vaccine will be made available for the use in Malaysia with a projected annual market value of RM200 million and the annual market demand regionally is estimated an approximate value of RM500 to RM600 million.

Pharmaniaga targets to supply Hexavalent vaccine to the Ministry of Health in Malaysia as well as to export to other parties worldwide.

Mr Vitoon added, "We are pleased that Pharmaniaga selected BioNet to develop a Hexavalent vaccine containing a recombinant pertussis vaccine. Its safety and higher immune response have been demonstrated in many clinical trials. The 6-in-1 vaccine will be a breakthrough product to overcome the issues observed with currently marketed acellular pertussis paediatric combined vaccines."

Pharmaniaga is the 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)

Pharmaniaga is the pharmaceutical company of Boustead Holdings Berhad Group of Companies, which together with the Armed Forces Fund Board, are the major shareholders of Pharmaniaga. Listed on the Main Market of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad, 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 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 is positioned to be a regional player in the international pharmaceutical arena. For more information, please log on to <https://pharmaniaga.com/>.

About BioNet

BioNet is a biotechnology group that shares its expertise and innovation to ensure rapid access to vaccines. Located in France and Thailand, BioNet creates genetically engineered vaccines and produces Pertagen®, the world's only recombinant pertussis vaccine containing a genetically inactivated pertussis toxin. BioNet has also established technology platforms to produce DNA and mRNA vaccines with 10 projects in preclinical and clinical studies. BioNet advances global research by collaborating with world-renowned scientists and organizations (including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, PATH, Institut Pasteur, CEPI, and International Vaccine Institute). BioNet has also forged a groundbreaking alliance with several vaccine manufacturers that has resulted in the deployment of 10 billion doses of polio vaccine over the past 20 years. Finally, BioNet has contributed to the development of bio-clusters for vaccine evaluation and production in India, Africa, and Australia. For more information, please visit us at www.bionet-asia.com and www.bionet.one