



SciGen signs collaborative agreement for development of Hepatitis B vaccine delivery

Singapore & Sydney, Australia. Thursday 9 March 2006. SciGen Limited (ASX:SIE) and OctoPlus of the Netherlands have executed a collaborative agreement to establish the suitability of OctoPlus's novel drug delivery system for the administration of SciGen's Hepatitis-B Vaccine – Sci-B-Vac™.

OctoPlus has developed a number of proprietary drug delivery technologies including the OctoDex™ systems, a unique and proprietary controlled release technology that can be applied to injectable biotechnology drug compounds. Upon successful outcome of the feasibility study both parties intend to enter into joint development of the product including clinical studies that could lead to the worldwide commercialization of the product.

SciGen has successfully completed the development of a proprietary novel Hepatitis B antigen as a multiple injection vaccine for prophylactic use based on its proprietary CHO-cell technology. It is presently evaluating the application of the technology as a therapeutic vaccine for the treatment of Hepatitis B Vaccine. Research and Development is currently underway.

The collaboration under this Agreement shall consist of two phases, namely a feasibility phase to establish a proof of concept and a second phase of development activities up to and including clinical trials.

The worldwide hepatitis B Vaccine market is over US\$500 million dollars and growing at the rate of 15% per annum. A single dose vaccine could greatly enhance government sponsored and World Health Organization (WHO) vaccination program for Hepatitis B.

About SciGen

SciGen Ltd is a biopharmaceutical company involved in commercializing later stage research. It co-develops and markets biopharmaceutical products for human healthcare. SciGen focuses in the areas of gastroenterology, endocrinology and immunology. Its product portfolio includes vaccines and therapeutics.

SciGen acquires rights to manufacture, distribute and market biopharmaceutical products under exclusive licensing arrangements. SciGen's portfolio currently includes proprietary biotechnology-derived products, and biogeneric products, which allow for faster entry into the market, as biogeneric products have undergone much of the clinical development and trials required to bring drugs to market. This minimizes the risks associated with early stage product development. SciGen currently undertakes R&D activities in collaboration with strategic partners and institutions.

SciGen's competitive advantage is in identifying research with commercial potential at an early stage to which it adds its expertise in gaining regulatory approval and bringing products to market.

SciGen is a Singaporean biotechnology company, established in 1988 and listed on the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX code SIE). SciGen is headquartered in Singapore, with offices in Australia, USA, Korea, Vietnam, Hong Kong, and Philippines and partners in India, China, Indonesia, Israel, Poland, Austria and the Netherlands.

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