

SNIPR BIOME is being awarded a grant by CARB-X of up to 10.2m USD for CRISPR-based treatment of Hematological Cancer patients in risk of Neutropenic Fever and life-threatening infections

Copenhagen, May 27, 2021

SNIPR BIOME ApS, a leading CRISPR and microbiome biotechnology company, today announced being awarded a grant of up to USD 10.2 million from the non-profit organisation Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria Biopharmaceutical Accelerator (CARB-X) to support the future development of a novel-targeted approach against *E. coli* infections. CARB-X is a global non-profit organisation accelerating the development of novel antibiotics for drug-resistant bacterial infections. The milestone-based funding will support the development of SNIPR BIOME's lead project SNIPR001, a CRISPR engineered development candidate targeting *E. coli* in patients with hematological malignancies.

"We are grateful and excited about the collaboration with CARB-X. The collaboration is an important validation of our company and the CRISPR technology platform we have been building over the past years. We believe our technology holds a huge potential in designing tomorrow's CRISPR-based medicines to treat life-threatening infections and fighting the global emerging antimicrobial resistance crisis. The solid expertise provided by CARB-X beyond the financial contributions will help us develop our company and organisation", says Dr. Christian Grøndahl, Co-founder & CEO at SNIPR Biome.

Patients with hematological malignancy are at increased risk of bloodstream infections due to both the disease and the anti-cancer treatment, with the pathogen *E. coli* playing an important role in this disease setting. Today, broad-spectrum antibiotics are widely used prophylactically, however there are no approved antibiotics for this indication and some of these medicines have been associated with safety concerns restricting their use. In addition, the medical importance of maintaining the microbiome is increasingly being recognised, providing an opportunity for a targeted approach like SNIPR001, which spare the microbiome. Also, the emergence of antibiotic-resistant *E. coli* infections is becoming more prevalent with the widespread use of broad-spectrum antibiotics, and this is associated with treatment failure, morbidity, and mortality. Hence, there is an unmet medical need for a targeted and microbiome-sparing therapeutic treatment.

"There is an urgent need for new drugs to prevent and treat drug-resistant bacterial infections, which can be life-threatening, particularly for patients with immune systems that have been weakened by disease or treatments like chemotherapy", said Erin Duffy, Chief of R&D at CARB-X. *"SNIPR has developed an innovative approach to precisely target bacteria like *E. coli* to prevent infections, without harming the beneficial bacteria in the patient's microbiome. Not only does this have the potential to save lives, but also it is antibiotic-sparing, which reduces the spread of antibiotic-resistant bacteria".*

*"There is an increasing awareness of the importance for human health of microbial diseases and anti-microbial resistance. We see that SNIPR001 has the potential to contribute to addressing unmet medical needs in a novel way in people at high risk of severe *E. coli* infections, and we look forward to working with CARB-X in bringing SNIPR001 into clinical trials",* said Dr. Milan Zdravkovic, Chief Medical Officer and Head of R&D at SNIPR Biome.

SNIPR001 is a prophylactic oral drug candidate designed to selectively target *E. coli* in the gut, thereby preventing its translocation into the blood stream. The dual mechanism built into the technology selectively decimates the target bacteria while leaving the rest of the microbiome

community intact and unharmed. SNIPR001 is in preclinical stage of development and phase 1, the first-in-human study, is planned to commence in first half of 2022. The first-in-human trial will investigate safety and tolerability and demonstrate technical proof of mechanism in healthy subjects and patients with hematological malignancy at risk of getting a bloodstream infection caused by *E. coli*.

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About SNIPR BIOME

SNIPR BIOME is a leading CRISPR and microbiome biotech company incorporated in Copenhagen, Denmark. SNIPR BIOME is engaged in the discovery and development of CRISPR/Cas-based drugs deploying its proprietary and patent-protected CRISPR/Cas platform. The company applies its CRISPR technologies to selectively target microbial pathogens and remodelling the microbiome to address important unmet medical needs. SNIPR BIOME is pioneering a novel use of CRISPR/Cas technology to selectively and precisely eradicate target bacteria, while leaving the rest of the patient's microbial community intact. In March 2019, SNIPR BIOME closed a \$50 million Series A financing by Lundbeckfonden Emerge (Copenhagen), Life Sciences Partners (Amsterdam), North-East Family Office (Copenhagen) and Wellington Partners (Munich).

For more details, please visit: www.sniprbiome.com

About CARB-X

Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria Biopharmaceutical Accelerator (CARB-X) is a global non-profit partnership dedicated to accelerating early development antibacterial R&D to address the rising global threat of drug-resistant bacteria. CARB-X is led by Boston University and funding is provided by the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA), part of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) in the US Department of Health and Human Services, the Wellcome Trust, a global charity based in the UK working to improve health globally, Germany's Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), the UK Department of Health and Social Care's Global Antimicrobial Resistance Innovation Fund (GAMRIF), the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and with in-kind support from National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the US National Institutes of Health (NIH). CARB-X is investing up to \$480 million from 2016-2022 to support innovative antibiotics and other therapeutics, vaccines, and rapid diagnostics. CARB-X supports the world's largest and most innovative pipeline of preclinical products against drug-resistant infections. CARB-X is headquartered at Boston University School of Law. carb-x.org/. Follow us on Twitter @CARB_X.