

**Press Release** 

# Mymetics announces new collaboration to advance the development of an innovative Malaria vaccine candidate

- Mymetics to apply its innovative virosome vaccine technology to develop a transmissionblocking Malaria vaccine candidate
- Fully funded by the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative (MVI), the study will be developed in partnership with the Laboratory of Malaria Immunology and Vaccinology (LMIV) of the NIH

**Epalinges, Switzerland, 18 November 2014** – Mymetics Corporation (OTCQB: MYMX), a pioneer in the research and development of virosome-based vaccines to prevent transmission of human infectious diseases, announced today that the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative (MVI) has chosen Mymetics to develop and produce virosome based vaccine formulations for a malaria transmission-blocking vaccine candidate. MVI is a global program whose objective is to accelerate the development of malaria vaccines and catalyze timely access in endemic countries.

Mymetics' proprietary virosome technology platform and its specialist virosome know-how has been selected to develop an innovative Malaria transmission-blocking vaccine candidate in partnership with the Laboratory of Malaria Immunology and Vaccinology (LMIV) of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

These new virosome vaccine candidates will each incorporate two different malaria parasite proteins supplied by LMIV and will be then separately tested in animal studies.

The project will start in November 2014, and preclinical results are expected by early 2016.

If this study is successful, the next step could be to prepare for clinical trials for a malaria transmission-blocking virosome vaccine and also explore the possibilities to combine this vaccine with other malaria vaccine candidates which are focused on other aspects of preventing malaria. Mymetics has shown separately in 2011 in a privately funded Phase 1b clinical trial in Tanzania that a virosome based vaccine for *Plasmodium falciparum* could reduce malaria episodes in children by more than 50%.<sup>i</sup>

According to the World Health Organization, in 2013, 97 countries had ongoing malaria transmission. There were an estimated 207 million cases of malaria in 2012 and an estimated 627 000 deaths.

## About the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative (MVI)

The PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative (MVI) is a global program established at PATH through an initial grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. MVI's mission is to accelerate the development of malaria vaccines and catalyze timely access in endemic countries. MVI's vision is a world free from malaria. For more information, please visit <u>www.malariavaccine.org</u>.

## Types of malaria vaccines

Early malaria vaccine development efforts focused on the parasite's pre-erythrocytic stage—the period during which the organism, in the form of a sporozoite, enters a person's blood stream and heads for the liver, where it matures and begins a prolific multiplication process. Today, vaccine developers are trying to develop three types of vaccines:

- Pre-erythrocytic vaccine candidates
- Blood-stage vaccine candidates



• Transmission-blocking vaccine candidates

#### Malaria transmission-blocking vaccine candidates

Transmission-blocking vaccine candidates seek to interrupt the life cycle of the parasite by inducing antibodies that prevent the parasite from maturing in the mosquito after it takes a blood meal from a vaccinated person. A successful transmission-blocking vaccine would be expected to indirectly reduce deaths and illness caused by malaria in at-risk communities.

#### About Laboratory of Malaria Immunology and Vaccinology (LMIV), NIAID

NIAID conducts and supports research—at NIH, throughout the United States, and worldwide—to study the causes of infectious and immune-mediated diseases, and to develop better means of preventing, diagnosing and treating these illnesses. News releases, fact sheets and other NIAID-related materials are available on the NIAID Web site at <a href="http://www.niaid.nih.gov">http://www.niaid.nih.gov</a>. LMIV was commissioned in 2009 to conduct basic and applied research relevant to malaria immunology and vaccine development, to pursue novel vaccine concepts, to produce prototype malaria vaccines, and to conduct early-phase clinical trials of promising vaccine candidates. For more information, please visit <a href="http://www.niaid.nih.gov/LabsAndResources/labs/aboutlabs/lmiv/pages/default.aspx">http://www.niaid.nih.gov/LabsAndResources/labs/aboutlabs/lmiv/pages/default.aspx</a>

#### **About Mymetics**

Mymetics Corporation (OTCQB: MYMX) is a Swiss-based biotechnology company registered in the US and trades on the OTCQB venture stage marketplace for early stage and developing U.S. and international companies. Companies are current in their reporting and undergo an annual verification and management certification process.

Mymetics develops next-generation preventative vaccines for infectious diseases. Mymetics' core technology and expertise are in the use of virosomes, lipid-based carriers containing functional fusion viral proteins and natural membrane proteins, in combination with rationally designed antigens. The company's vaccines are designed to induce protection against early transmission and infection, focusing on the mucosal immune response as a first-line defense, which, for some pathogens, may be essential for the development of an effective prophylactic vaccine.

Mymetics currently has 5 vaccines in its pipeline: HIV-1/AIDS, intra nasal Influenza, Malaria, Herpes Simplex Virus and the RSV vaccine (out licensed to ClearPath – Astellas). The company's intranasal Influenza vaccine and the HIV-1 vaccine have successfully completed Phase I clinical trials in healthy human volunteers. A Phase 1b clinical trial for its Malaria vaccine on children in Tanzania has been completed, while the HSV vaccine candidate is in the preclinical phase. For further information, please visit mymetics.com.

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#### **Forward looking statements**

The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a "safe harbor" for forward-looking statements, which are identified by the words "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "intend," "plan" and similar expressions. The statements contained herein which are not based on historical facts are forward-looking statements that involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that could significantly affect our actual results, performance or achievements in the future and, accordingly, such actual results, performance or achievements may materially differ from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements made by or on our behalf. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, risks associated with our ability to successfully develop and protect our intellectual property, our ability to raise additional capital to fund future operations and compliance with applicable laws and changes in such laws and the administration of such laws. See Mymetics' most recent Form 10-K for a discussion of such risks, uncertainties and other factors. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements which speak only as of the date the statements were made.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>i</sup> Plos One, 6: e22273, 2011