



ABIVAX plans IPO on the Euronext regulated market in Paris

Document de Base Registered with the French Autorité des Marchés Financiers (AMF)

ABIVAX DEVELOPS NOVEL MEDICINES TO CONTROL LIFE-THREATENING VIRAL DISEASES

- ABIVAX's goal is to become a global leader in anti-virals and human vaccines
- Two first-in-class products with long-lasting effect in advanced clinical trials for chronic Hepatitis B and HIV/AIDS
- A unique anti-viral platform "killing" viral RNA
- Pioneering partnerships with Cuban Excellence in vaccines and anti-virals

Paris, France. May, 20th 2015 – **ABIVAX**, a clinical stage biotech company developing and commercializing anti-viral compounds and human vaccines, today announced that its Document de Base (Registration Document) has been registered with the French Autorité des marchés financiers (AMF) on May 19th with the number I.15-040. This registration marks the first phase of the Company's planned IPO on the Euronext regulated market in Paris, subject to market conditions and the issuing of the AMF visa on the prospectus related to the transaction.

ABIVAX is a biotechnology company focused on becoming a global leader in the discovery, development and commercialization of anti-viral compounds and human vaccines to treat some of the world's most important infectious diseases, including chronic Hepatitis B (CHB) and HIV/AIDS, as well as Ebola, Dengue and Chikungunya.

ABIVAX's key strengths and strategic priorities are:

- Two lead compounds: **ABX203** and **ABX464** have delivered results to-date suggesting that they can respectively bring real advantages to the treatment of chronic Hepatitis B (World Health Organization/WHO estimates 2 billion people worldwide have been infected with Hepatitis B, including 350 million patients with the chronic form of this disease) and HIV/AIDS (ABIVAX estimates total worldwide costs of treating AIDS of up to \$18 billion);
- Pioneered relationships with Cuban world-class vaccine institutes as a way to build its product pipeline;
- Current clinical trials likely to re-affirm long term control of viral load and potential to serve as a functional cure along with simpler, more cost effective treatment regimens;
- Planned IPO aims to finance the clinical development programs for both lead compounds, and in particular for ABX464 in the treatment of AIDS, in priority the two Phase IIB studies that will follow the current Phase IIa trial which will deliver results in fall 2015;
- Together with a very experienced and international management team, the strategy will enable ABIVAX to achieve a number of important milestones in the treatment of viral disease.

ABIVAX: a pioneering biotech company with an advanced pipeline already in clinic

ABIVAX has 2 first-in-class compounds in advanced clinical development: **ABX203**, a therapeutic vaccine that could be a cure for chronic Hepatitis B and **ABX464**, a novel small molecule against HIV with a number of important potential competitive advantages, including the lack of induced resistance and a long-lasting effect. The broader ABIVAX portfolio includes additional anti-viral compounds and vaccines that may enter the clinic in the coming 12-18 months.

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Alongside its cutting-edge technology, ABIVAX has also pioneered relationships with Cuban world-class vaccine institutes (CIGB - Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Finlay Institute) as a way to build its product pipeline. Through these relationships, ABIVAX has secured a broad access to Cuban R&D and product manufacturing. Today, the Cuban life science industry is based on world-class science and cutting-edge technology research.

These relationships have already resulted in a number of important deals for ABIVAX including the in-licensing of ABX203 and of a novel antiviral compound against Dengue, and the acquisition of the distribution rights of 3 commercial vaccines against Typhoid, Meningococcus B&C and Leptospirosis, for which ABIVAX acquired exclusive and non-exclusive distribution rights. These three vaccines should be marketed as soon as 2015, subject to the signing of distribution agreements with local partners. ABIVAX is also in advanced discussions to acquire other products.

ABX203: a therapeutic vaccine against chronic Hepatitis B currently in pivotal trial

ABX203 is a therapeutic vaccine composed of 2 recombinant proteins from the Hepatitis B vaccine (HBV), the surface antigen (HBsAg) and the nucleocapsid (core) structure (HBcAg). This combination of antigens has been designed to induce immune response in patients suffering from chronic Hepatitis B.

Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection is a major public health problem worldwide. People infected with HBV can develop persistent infection, which can lead to chronic disease and death from cirrhosis or hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). According to the World Health Organization (WHO), an estimated 2 billion people worldwide have been infected with HBV, and more than 350 million people, or 5% of the world's population, have chronic, lifelong infections. Around 1 to 1.5 million people die every year due to the consequences of Hepatitis B.

ABX203 was in-licensed in 2013 from the CIGB, following the completion of successful phase I, I/IIa and II/III clinical trials run by CIGB in Cuba and Bangladesh. ABIVAX owns an exclusive license to develop and commercialize ABX203 in more than 80 territories in Asia, Europe and Africa.

A pivotal Phase IIb/III study with ABX203 is currently recruiting patients in the Asia-Pacific region. Previous clinical studies have revealed that ABX203 can deliver a significant improvement in the treatment of chronic Hepatitis B via controlling viral load for a much longer period of time when compared to current treatment options.

ABX464: a novel treatment against HIV that potentially could cure patients

ABIVAX designed ABX464 to lead to a clinically relevant improvement in HIV therapy, in collaboration with Professor Jamal Tazi's team at the CNRS in Montpellier, France. ABX464 inhibits the biogenesis of viral RNA, a crucial step in the replication of the HIV virus. This mechanism of action had never been previously explored.

HIV/AIDS, though becoming a chronic infection, is still a deadly disease, which places a significant burden on healthcare resources. ABIVAX estimates the total worldwide costs to be approx. \$18 billion.

In the USA and EU, more than 2 million patients live with HIV. The current standard of care is characterized by a cocktail containing multiple drugs that require daily administration, and in time will need to be changed due to the growing resistance to the treatment. The current treatment for HIV patients has a high cost.

ABX464 is a novel, small molecule inhibiting HIV replication. For the first time in the treatment of AIDS, this molecule has the potential to deliver a long-lasting reduction in the patient's viral load after only a few weeks of treatment. ABX464 could be the first treatment to avoid the development of mutants, and then prevent resistance to the treatment. This key feature of ABX464 could be a major competitive advantage. It also appears that ABX464 may have a further advantage: it could be administered less frequently and for a shorter period of time than current HIV treatments. As a result of these attributes, many industry experts believe that ABX464 could be a functional cure for HIV positive patients. This would not only bring important advantages to patients but could also bring huge cost benefits to payers.



Enrolment in the Phase IIa clinical study started in January 2015 in Mauritius.

ABX464 is the first clinical candidate molecule generated from ABIVAX's proprietary technology platform and chemical library. ABIVAX owns exclusive and worldwide distribution rights for ABX464. The platform has been designed based on an in-depth understanding of the processing of viral RNA within the human host cell and the ability of the compounds novel library to block the biogenesis of viral RNA. ABIVAX has pioneered a proprietary antiviral platform, based on a novel mechanism of action to prevent viral replication. This platform and its compound library could also deliver additional molecules against diseases such as Dengue, Chikungunya and Ebola.

Professor Hartmut Ehrlich, M.D., CEO of ABIVAX, said: *"ABIVAX has all key elements needed to become a global leader in the anti-viral and vaccines field. Our two lead compounds ABX464 and ABX203 have delivered results to-date that suggest that they can bring real advantages to the treatment of HIV and chronic Hepatitis B respectively. We are confident that the current clinical trials will re-affirm these potential advantages of long term control of viral load and simpler more cost effective treatment regimens. With our advanced clinical development pipeline, and other preclinical compounds with differentiated profiles, we believe ABIVAX is in a unique position to significantly improve the treatment of a number of major infections such as HIV or Hepatitis B in a way that delivers important benefits to both patients and payers."*

Dr. Philippe Pouletty, M.D., Chairman of ABIVAX, added: *"ABIVAX was founded with the aim to provide innovative treatments for some of the most threatening viral diseases in the world. Our pioneering strategy is based on both our proprietary research and the strong relationships that we have developed with the highly innovative and productive Cuban life science industry. Together with its very experienced and international management team, I am confident that this strategy will enable ABIVAX to achieve a number of important milestones in the treatment of viral disease."*

ACCESS TO THE DOCUMENT DE BASE

Copies of the Document de Base recorded May, 19th 2015 under number I.15-040 are available free of charge and on request at the headquarters of ABIVAX, 5 rue de la Baume, 75008 Paris, France. The document can also be viewed and downloaded on the websites of the AMF (www.amf-france.org) and of ABIVAX (www.abivax.com).

RISK FACTORS

Public attention is drawn to Chapter 4 "Risk Factors" of the Registration Document registered by the AMF.

About ABIVAX

ABIVAX is an advanced clinical development biotech company focused on becoming a global leader in the discovery, development and commercialization of anti-viral compounds and human vaccines to treat some of the world's most important infectious diseases, including HIV/AIDS and chronic Hepatitis B.

ABIVAX has 2 compounds in clinical stage research: ABX464 a novel small molecule against HIV with a number of important potential competitive advantages, and ABX203, a therapeutic vaccine candidate that could be a cure for chronic Hepatitis B. The broader ABIVAX portfolio includes additional anti-viral compounds and vaccines that may enter the clinical stage in the coming 18 months.

ABX464 has been developed using ABIVAX' anti-viral platform that allows the Company to address a broad range of viral targets involved in the production and management of viral RNA within the host cell. ABIVAX also has access to a number of cutting edge technologies including complex molecular protein/RNA-pro interactions to discover and develop proprietary breakthrough therapies to help patients' clear important pathogenic viruses.

Headquartered in Paris, France, ABIVAX conducts its research and development in Évry (France) and Montpellier (France). In addition, ABIVAX benefits from long term partnerships with the Cuban Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (Havana, Cuba), The Finlay Institute (Havana, Cuba), the Molecular Genetics Institute of Montpellier (CNRS-Université de Montpellier, France), the Curie Institute (Paris, France), the Scripps Research Institute (La Jolla, CA, USA), the University of Chicago (Chicago, IL, USA), Brigham Young University (Provo, UT, USA), and the Institut Pasteur (Paris, France). ABIVAX intends to pursue further business development opportunities to access commercial products as part of its overall corporate strategy.

ABIVAX was founded by Dr. Philippe Pouletty, M.D., managing partner at Truffle Capital, the cornerstone investor in ABIVAX since its creation. For more information, please visit the company's website: www.ABIVAX.com

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Contacts

ABIVAX

Prof. Hartmut J. Ehrlich, CEO

Press Relations

Citigate Dewe Rogerson

David Dible
david.dible@citigatedr.co.uk
+44 20 7282 2949

ALIZE RP

Caroline Carmagnol and Valentine Boivin
abivax@alizerp.com
+33 1 44 54 36 63 / + 33 6 64 18 99 59

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