

Press release

For immediate publication

ViroVet receives grant from VLAIO (Flanders) to boost the development of its disruptive vaccine technology

LEUVEN, Belgium, 18 September 2018 - ViroVet NV announced today that it has received a 590k€ grant from Flanders Innovation & Entrepreneurship (VLAIO) to assess the potential of its PLLAV-vaccination technology in poultry and large ruminants.

ViroVet is a leading Belgian biopharmaceutical company active in the development of antiviral drugs and innovative vaccines for use in livestock. Since its capital increase in December 2016 ViroVet started developing novel and innovative vaccines, termed PLLAV vaccines for Plasmid-Launched Live-Attenuated Virus vaccines. PLLAV technology allows for mass production of inexpensive, tailor-made, modified-life vaccines with the potential to prevent endemic and epizootic livestock diseases. PLLAV vaccines do not require a cold chain as they are stable at temperatures of up to 50°C. The platform technology is developed in collaboration with KU Leuven.

ViroVet's earlier proof-of-concept work in pigs underscored the potential of this technology for livestock. In collaboration with GALVmed ViroVet extended its vaccine pipeline to include novel vaccines for small ruminants. The current VLAIO grant now enables ViroVet to assess the potential of the technology in poultry and cattle in an ambitious two-year project.

Dr. Erwin Blomsma, CEO and co-founder commented: "Poultry is the fastest growing sector in the livestock industry, more than 70 billion broilers are consumed every year. The support from VLAIO will boost ViroVet's innovative poultry programs thereby further stimulating rapid growth of our company in Flanders."

Dr. Nesya Goris, CDO and co-founder stated that: "The disruptive nature of ViroVet's PLLAV vaccine technology will further emerge as its use in poultry becomes evident. The possibility to combine different disease targets into one single vaccine will decrease handling time and production costs. In large ruminants, the PLLAV technology will allow us to develop the next generation of bovine viral diarrhea (BVD) and foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) vaccines."

About ViroVet

ViroVet is a biopharmaceutical company with a clear objective to develop innovative technologies to improve the health and value of livestock. The company is headquartered in Leuven (Heverlee), Belgium and has a pipeline of antiviral drugs and thermostable vaccines.

More information

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