



IMMUNARTES
INFECTIOUS DISEASE THERAPIES

IMMUNARTES awarded contract up to \$10.4 Million to develop a much-needed Staph vaccine

Chicago, Illinois, December 01, 2022 – IMMUNARTES LLC, a Chicago-based biotechnology company developing vaccines and therapeutics against infectious diseases announced that it has been awarded a contract by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), for the advanced development of a vaccine for *Staphylococcus aureus* infections.

The problem is that despite wide-spread exposure to *S. aureus*, humans do not develop protective immunity against the pathogen and multidrug-resistant strains such as methicillin-resistant *S. aureus* (MRSA) severely complicate antibiotic treatments. IMMUNARTES' lead drug candidate, IA013, is a vaccine intended to disarm the pathogen's key ability to evade immunity and cause infection. Proof-of-concept studies with IA013 have already shown the vaccine to be effective in animal models, promoting *S. aureus* decolonization and inducing a polyclonal immune response protecting against invasive disease.

Under this contract, IMMUNARTES has received \$1.1 million for Base Period activities with the potential of up to \$9.3 million in additional funding if all contract options are exercised. The total contract value of \$10.4 million, inclusive of base and options, will support cGMP manufacturing and IND-enabling studies to enable advancement of IA013 through a Phase I clinical safety study in humans. "We are honored that NIAID have awarded us this contract and look forward to advancing this critically important vaccine towards clinical trials. IA013 has proven highly efficacious in multiple animal models of *S. aureus* disease and IMMUNARTES is eager to test the vaccine's effectiveness in a clinical setting." said Vilasack Thammavongsa, CEO of IMMUNARTES.

This project will be funded in whole with Federal funds from the National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, under Contract No. 75N93022C00057.

Staphylococcus aureus

S. aureus is a gram-positive bacterium frequently found in the upper respiratory tract and on the skin. About 30% of people in the U.S. are colonized with *S. aureus* with colonization representing the highest risk for invasive disease. Manifestations of *S. aureus* infection span from minor skin infections such as folliculitis and abscess, to severe life-threatening infections such as bacteremia, meningitis, endocarditis, pneumonia, osteomyelitis, sepsis, and invasive soft tissue infections. In healthcare settings, such as long-term care facilities and hospitals, the transmission of *S. aureus* can cause infections in high risk and older adult patients, as well as in previously healthy individuals.

IMMUNARTES, LLC

The company was spun-out of The University of Chicago and has offices and a laboratory in University Technology Park (UTP) at the Illinois Institute of Technology (Illinois Tech) near downtown Chicago. For further information, please visit the company's website www.immunartes.com and for more information on UTP, please visit <https://www.iit.edu/utp>.

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