

For Immediate Release
July 2020

In Fight Against COVID-19, CSL Behring Begins Trial to Evaluate a Monoclonal Antibody for Respiratory Distress

- *Phase II placebo-controlled study will assess the safety and efficacy of a monoclonal antibody for the treatment of patients with severe respiratory distress due to COVID-19 related pneumonia*
- *CSL Behring now evaluating 5 approaches to preventing and treating COVID-19*

KING OF PRUSSIA, Pa. – 6 July 2020 – Global biotherapeutics leader [CSL Behring](#) today announced that the first patient has been enrolled in its [Phase 2 study](#) to assess the safety and efficacy of a monoclonal antibody to treat patients suffering from severe respiratory distress, a leading cause of death in patients with COVID-19 related pneumonia.

“The greatest clinical challenge in treating patients with severe COVID-19 and improving outcomes has been our ability to manage the serious respiratory complications associated with the disease,” said Lars Groenke, R&D Lead, Respiratory Therapeutic Area, CSL Behring. “Our hope is to be able to prevent the progression of COVID-19, improve patient outcomes, and provide physicians with an effective tool in the fight against this deadly virus.”

Currently, CSL Behring is evaluating five approaches across its plasma fractionation and recombinant and antibody strategic scientific platforms to preventing and treating COVID-19.

In addition to the study, CSL Behring:

- Has entered into a partnering agreement with the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), and The University of Queensland (UQ) to accelerate the development, manufacture and distribution of a COVID-19 vaccine candidate that has been pioneered by researchers at UQ.
- Is one of the founding members of the *CoVlg-19 Plasma Alliance*, an unprecedented industry partnership to develop CoVlg-19, a potential plasma-derived therapy for treating COVID-19. The [CoVlg-19 Plasma Alliance](#) will work toward developing the unbranded anti-SARS-CoV-2 medicine with the potential to treat individuals with serious complications from COVID-19, and to support national governments in their efforts to fight the current pandemic. The collaboration will leverage leading-edge expertise and work that the companies already have underway.

- Is developing an anti-SARS-CoV-2 plasma product for the Australian market with the potential to treat people with serious complications of COVID-19, particularly those whose illness is progressing towards the need for ventilation. The investigational product is under development at the company's advanced manufacturing facility located in Broadmeadows, Victoria.
- Has also formed a partnership with SAB Biotherapeutics, a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company, to advance and deliver a novel immunotherapy targeting COVID-19. The potential therapy would be produced without the need for blood plasma donations from recovered COVID-19 patients. Clinical trials could begin this summer in North America.

"When it comes to COVID-19, we have gone all in on the battle and are in the fight together with many external partners," said Bill Mezzanotte, MD, MPH, Executive Vice President, Head of Research and Development, and Chief Medical Officer for CSL Behring. "Whether it is preventative with vaccines, or preventing progression with a hyperimmune, or using our monoclonal antibodies, to help people who are experiencing severe respiratory complications, CSL has taken on projects we think make sense both scientifically and that fit our capabilities. In this way we are most likely to deliver on our promise to patients by helping find solutions to stop this virus and to treat the damage it inflicts on people."

About CSL Behring

[CSL Behring](#) is a global biotherapeutics leader driven by its promise to save lives. Focused on serving patients' needs by using the latest technologies, we develop and deliver innovative therapies that are used to treat coagulation disorders, primary immune deficiencies, hereditary angioedema, respiratory disease, and neurological disorders. The company's products are also used in cardiac surgery, burn treatment and to prevent hemolytic disease of the newborn.

CSL Behring operates one of the world's largest plasma collection networks, CSL Plasma. The parent company, CSL Limited (ASX:CSL;USOTC:CSLLY), headquartered in Melbourne, Australia, employs more than 26,000 people, and delivers its life-saving therapies to people in more than 100 countries. For inspiring stories about the promise of biotechnology, visit [Vita CSLBehring.com/vita](http://Vita.CSLBehring.com/vita) and follow us on [Twitter.com/CSLBehring](https://twitter.com/CSLBehring).

Media Contacts

Jennifer Purdue

Mobile: +1 610 306 9355

Email: jennifer.purdue@cslobehring.com

Christina Hickie

Australia and Asia Pacific

Phone: +61 429 609 762

Email: christina.hickie@csi.com

###