



PHICO
THERAPEUTICS

Phico Therapeutics Appoints Richard Nagle as Chairman of its Board

CAMBRIDGE, UK, 28th June 2021: Phico Therapeutics Ltd ('Phico'), a biotechnology company developing engineered phage technology as the basis of a new generation of antibiotics to overcome antibacterial resistance, today announced the appointment of Richard Nagle as Chair of its Board of Directors. The appointment follows the company's recent funding from Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria Biopharmaceutical Accelerator (CARB-X) to advance its SASPject antibacterial therapy of up to \$5.3million USD to support preclinical development, plus up to \$12.86million more if the project progresses successfully to Phase 1 clinical trials, subject to available funding (circa. £13.2million GBP total). This is in addition to the £7m of funding led by British Growth Fund (BGF).

Richard Nagle is an experienced biotech executive and has built and developed business solutions across the international biopharma sector. His focus on accelerating product development has led to successful company exits or IPO, including recent CEO and Board Director of Immune Regulation (now Revolo Biotherapeutics), an innovative biotechnology platform business focused on regulating the immune system, which successfully raised \$50million in 2020 from Morningside Ventures, and others. Previously, Richard served as Non-Executive Director of Peptinnovate and as CEO of a number of successful drug delivery, biotechnology and medical device businesses. He was also a Director of IMS Health and Quintiles (now IQVIA).

Richard takes over from Dr. Anthony Martin who has been Phico's Chair since 2010.

Dr. Heather Fairhead, Phico Founder and CEO commented: *"We are delighted to welcome Richard as Chair of our Board with his wealth of executive and commercial experience. This will be invaluable in our next exciting phase as we exemplify SASPject technology in first-in-human intravenous studies and advance the science of antibacterial therapy. I would like to thank our previous chair Dr Anthony Martin for his support and dedication over the last 11 years – his guidance has been instrumental in achieving our success.*

Richard Nagle added: *"This is an extremely exciting time for Phico Therapeutics, and I am delighted to be joining this dynamic business, which has been at the forefront of building technological solutions to antibacterial resistance. I intend to expand our presence both in the UK and Internationally. It is clear that Phico has built a world class team to execute on its clinical development goals and I look forward to working with Dr. Heather Fairhead and the management team in helping them to realise a number of great milestones for the company".*

For more information, please visit: www.phicotx.co.uk

View Phico's SASPject technology here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U27YARVMtkg>

ENDS

Note to Editors



*Richard Nagle, Chairman,
Phico Therapeutics*

For a high-res image contact Zyme Communications

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About Phico Therapeutics www.phicotx.co.uk/

Phico Therapeutics (Phico) is a biotechnology company developing engineered phage technology as the basis of a new generation of antibiotics to overcome antibacterial resistance, particularly those caused by multi-drug resistant bacteria.

Phico's SASPject™ platform technology utilises engineered bacterial viruses, or phages, to deliver a gene encoding a unique antibacterial small acid-soluble spore protein (SASP) that inactivates bacterial DNA. This stops the bacteria from metabolising or reproducing, whilst the SASP remains unaffected by the sequence of the bacterial DNA, including mutations, making resistance unlikely to develop. SASPject can target any chosen bacteria including those that are treatment resistant.

Founded in Cambridge, UK by Dr Heather Fairhead, Phico is building an innovative intravenous antibacterials pipeline focused on serious infections with few existing treatment options and targeting key superbug threats including *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and *Escherichia coli*. The company has received backing from independent investors, the Wellcome Trust, UK Government grants and BGF, and has a clear path to take lead intravenous product, *P. aeruginosa* targeted, SASPject PT3.9 through a study in patients. Phico recently announced funding from CARB-X, a global non-profit partnership dedicated to accelerating antibacterial research to tackle the global rising threat of drug-resistant bacteria, led by Boston University.

About SASPject™

SASPject™ is a pan-spectrum antibacterial technology that can target selected bacterial species by using engineered bacteriophages. SASPject™ works by injecting a gene that encodes small acid-soluble spore proteins, or SASPs, directly into the targeted bacteria. The injected gene then produces SASPs, which bind to bacterial DNA and inactivate it. SASPs “turn off” DNA so the targeted bacterial cell cannot metabolise or reproduce. The immune system can then remove the bacteria from the body. SASPs bind to all bacterial DNA, irrespective of the sequence of that DNA. Spontaneous mutations in DNA, or the import of new DNA that gives new characteristics to the bacterial cell, are key ways in which bacteria develop resistance to antibiotics. Neither of these strategies affects the ability of SASP to bind to and inactivate bacterial DNA.

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and Research (BMBF), and the UK Global AMR Innovation Fund (GAMRIF)..The content of this news release are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, or other CARB-X funders.