

# Guard Therapeutics reports positive results from preclinical studies

**Guard Therapeutics today reports positive results from preclinical studies of the company's investigational drug ROSgard in experimental animal models of sepsis. Two independent studies conducted at the Karolinska Institute show that ROSgard reduces the harmful effects that occur in both the liver and kidneys when these organs are exposed to a general inflammation and oxidative stress.**

The studies are part of Guard Therapeutics' strategy to develop ROSgard as a protective treatment against acute kidney injury in several patient segments, initially in patients undergoing open heart surgery. The experimental results, which show that ROSgard protects against serious types of injury to both the liver and kidneys, thus strengthen the company's future opportunities to expand the clinical use of ROSgard to broader patient groups with great medical need where there are currently no effective treatments.

In the studies, which were carried out in collaboration with researchers at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, the effect of ROSgard was evaluated in two separate and well-established animal models for sepsis ("blood poisoning") in rats, a model of lipopolysaccharide-induced inflammation (LPS) and a CLP model (cecal ligation and puncture). In both studies, organ-protective effects of ROSgard were demonstrated based on a number of biomarkers in both the liver (ALT, AST) and kidneys (creatinine, proteinuria).

"The positive study results indicate that the future use of ROSgard can potentially be expanded to additional areas where there is a great need for better treatments, such as sepsis. The results also strengthen the hypothesis that our investigational drug's protective mechanisms are not specific to the kidneys but can be generalised to other organs and tissues, which can be beneficial in a variety of acute medical conditions including heart surgery," Guard Therapeutics' CEO, Tobias Agervald, says.

Among other properties, the investigational drug ROSgard has the ability to counteract severe oxidative stress, which is a common denominator for many types of acute kidney injury. In the initial clinical development phase Guard Therapeutics has chosen to give priority to treatment in connection with open heart surgery using a heart-lung machine, where a major global phase 2 study is planned to start in the first quarter of 2022. There is also an option to expand the continued clinical programme to other segments, such as patients undergoing kidney transplantation.

**For further information, please contact:**

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## About Guard Therapeutics

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Guard Therapeutics is a pharmaceutical company that identifies and develops new therapies for diseases with a great medical need for more effective treatments. The company's clinical investigational drug ROSgard is being developed as a protective treatment against acute kidney injury with an initial focus on patients undergoing heart surgery. Guard Therapeutics is listed on Nasdaq First North Growth Market Stockholm.

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*This information is information that Guard Therapeutics is obliged to make public pursuant to the EU Market Abuse Regulation. The information was submitted for publication, through the agency of the contact persons set out above, at 2021-11-22 08:30 CET.*

## Attachments

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