



PRESS RELEASE

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GeneNova collaboration to develop adeno-associated virus based gene therapies

Unique innovation collaboration funded by academia and industry

A 5-year multi-disciplinary collaboration has been launched to develop adeno-associated virus (AAV) based gene therapies, funded by academia and industry. KTH is host for the newly funded Vinnova Innovation Milieu "GeneNova".

AAV based gene therapies have potential for curative treatment of a range of serious human diseases. One of the current technology limitations is the high manufacturing costs and limited supply.

A unique collection of world-leading Swedish technology and service providers, pharma companies and university faculties have joined forces to establish the GeneNova collaboration aimed at disrupting the current strategies for the development and bioproduction of these advanced therapies. The shared vision of GeneNova is to innovate and apply novel technological solutions throughout the drug development process.

This collaboration is supported by Sweden's Innovation agency, Vinnova, and industry partners to just over 110MSEK total budget 2021-2026.

Partners of GeneNova: Alfa Laval, AstraZeneca, Biotage, CombiGene, Karolinska Institutet, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Uppsala University, Vironova, Ziccum

Johan Rockberg, professor in antibody technology and directed evolution at KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm

"I am extremely honored and excited to lead the GeneNova team with such wide representation of experts spanning from hardware, automation, mechanics, AI and mathematics to protein and cell engineering, bioprocess development, separation, drug discovery, neurology, virology, and formulation. Five years from now we aim to be able to look back at how we have contributed with many new perspectives, technologies, and applications of gene therapy development for the benefit of the patients."

Jan Nilsson, CEO CombiGene:

"At CombiGene, we are proud to be part of this pioneering project. Breaking new ground and removing barriers is at the core of our DNA, and we are thrilled to be collaborating with some of Sweden's leading experts within academia and industry. AAV based gene therapies represent fantastic opportunities to create new treatments, and if we, on top of that, can develop novel and inexpensive production methods, the benefits would be enormous."



About CombiGene AB

CombiGene's vision is to offer patients affected by severe life-changing diseases opportunities for a better life through innovative gene therapies. CombiGene's business concept is to develop effective gene therapies for serious diseases that today lack adequate treatment methods. Research assets are taken in from a network of external researchers and developed further up to preclinical/clinical concept verification. Drug candidates for common diseases will be co-developed and commercialized through strategic partnerships, while CombiGene may drive the development and commercialization in-house for medicines aimed at limited patient populations.

The Company has signed an exclusive collaboration and licensing agreement for CombiGene's CG01 project with Spark Therapeutics.

The company is public and listed on the Nasdaq First North Growth Market and the company's Certified Advisor is FNCA Sweden AB, +46 (0)852 80 03 99, info@fnca.se.

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