



**FINAL**  
**11 October 2011**

**Coridon Demonstrates 100% Protection against Herpes Simplex Virus 2 using DNA vaccine**

- Professor Ian Frazer leading Coridon program
- Allied Healthcare Group (AHZ) major shareholder in Coridon

Brisbane, Australia, 11 October 2011: DNA vaccine development company Coridon Pty Ltd. today announced that it had successfully completed pre-clinical efficacy testing of its prototype Herpes Simplex Virus 2 (HSV-2) vaccine, with outstanding results. The company will now look to progress the program into clinical studies.

Collaborating with Professor David Koelle and his colleagues at the University of Washington in Seattle, Coridon tested a number of different formulations of Coridon's prototype vaccine. These proved 100% effective at protecting animals against HSV-2 infection, confirming an earlier study with the University of Washington which also demonstrated 90-100% protection against infection. These results were presented at the 5<sup>th</sup> Vaccine and ISV Annual Global Congress in Seattle last week.

Having achieved this milestone, Coridon has now secured additional funding from major investor Allied Healthcare Group and plans to commence manufacturing and undertake formal pre-clinical safety studies before testing the vaccine in a Phase I clinical study.

"The results of our herpes vaccine mark the beginning of an exciting period," stated Professor Ian Frazer, Chairman of Coridon. "Over the next 12 months, we expect pivotal data showing that our HSV vaccine, which incorporates Coridon optimisation technology, produces similar immune responses in the clinic to those seen in the animal trials."

Coridon is developing DNA vaccines for the prevention and treatment for a range of infectious diseases and cancers in humans, utilising the company's patented technology. Coridon's DNA vaccine technologies differ from conventional vaccines in that they offer both preventative and therapeutic value.

Coridon was founded by Professor Ian Frazer to commercialise his work in developing next generation DNA vaccines. Professor Frazer's work at Coridon follows the success of his cervical cancer vaccine Gardasil. Major shareholder in Coridon, Allied Healthcare Group (ASX: AHZ) is working with Professor Frazer to assist in the commercialisation of his work.

Lee Rodne, MD of Allied Healthcare Group said: "These data provide fantastic validation to the Coridon platform which could be applied to a number of infectious diseases. We are excited about the path forward for the program as it moves toward clinical studies."

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### **About Herpes**

According to the Centers for Disease Control in the USA, genital herpes affects more than 1 in 6 Americans between ages 14 and 49. This disease often results in recurrent painful sores in the genital area. HSV-2 is the major causative agent of genital herpes. As well as pain and discomfort to infected individuals, the virus can have serious health implications for babies born to infected women. Herpes is also believed to aid in the transmission of HIV. Current herpes treatment involves the use of antiviral drugs which can reduce, but not eliminate, outbreaks and shedding and therefore do not prevent spread of the disease. According to research reported in Biomed Central's journal BMC Infectious Diseases, the economic burden of genital HSV infection and resulting complications has been estimated to be greater than \$1 billion annually in the USA alone.

### **About Coridon**

Coridon was founded in 2000 by the founder inventor Prof Ian Frazer as a private unlisted company, to develop and commercialise patented technology for improving immune responses to DNA vaccines licensed by UniQuest Pty Ltd and developed at the University of Queensland. The company has laboratories within the research facility at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane, working in collaboration with the University of Queensland's Diamantina Institute. The company's overall objective is to utilise its unique optimisation technology to produce prophylactic and/or therapeutic DNA vaccines for a range of infectious diseases and cancers in humans. Product development is currently focused on herpesvirus vaccines.

### **About Allied Healthcare Group**

Allied Healthcare Group Limited (ASX: AHZ) is a diversified healthcare company focused on investing in and developing next generation technologies with world class partners, acquiring strategic assets to grow its product and service offerings and expanding revenues from its existing profitable medical sales and distribution business. The Company has assets from Research & Development through Clinical Development as well as Sales, Marketing and Distribution. Allied Healthcare Group is in the process of commercializing its innovative tissue engineering technology for regenerative medicine and is a major investor in Brisbane based Coridon Pty Ltd, led by Professor Ian Frazer developing next generation vaccines for global markets. Further information on the Company can be found on [www.alliedhealthcaregroup.com.au](http://www.alliedhealthcaregroup.com.au).

### **About Coridon's optimisation technology**

Coridon has 6 granted US patents protecting its codon optimisation DNA technology, which enhances protein expression in the cell or tissue targeted and results in an improved humoral response. The second component of the technology, also patent protected, is to use a mixture of DNAs encoding ubiquitinated and non ubiquitinated proteins. This strategy enhances the degradation of the protein and optimises T cell responses, while preserving structural epitopes necessary for B cells responses, resulting in vaccines with prophylactic and therapeutic potential. The preclinical studies of the vaccine, using doses ranging from 0.3µg to 30µg showed that five out of ten vaccine formulations gave 100% protection in a HSV-2 infection challenge model at 50 times the lethal dose and two vaccine formulations gave 100% protection at 500 times the lethal dose.