

PRESS RELEASE

OM Pharma and AstraZeneca enter into strategic collaboration to expand presence in respiratory and immunology fields in China

OM Pharma enters into a strategic collaboration agreement granting AstraZeneca the exclusive right to import and distribute the immunological therapy Broncho-Vaxom® for the prevention and treatment of respiratory tract infections in China (excluding Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan).

Meyrin/Geneva, Switzerland, 6 November 2020 – OM Pharma and AstraZeneca celebrated their strategic collaboration agreement today at a partnership signing ceremony in Shanghai.

The strategic collaboration agreement grants AstraZeneca the exclusive right to import, distribute and promote OM Pharma's Broncho-Vaxom® (Bacterial Lysates - OM-85) in China (excluding Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan). Broncho-Vaxom® is a therapeutic agent that effectively prevents and treats recurrent or acute respiratory infections in adult and pediatric patients by boosting the host immunity. In China, recurrent respiratory tract infection is a common disease in pediatrics, with an incidence rate of about 20%.¹ The prevalence of COPD among people over 40 years old is 8.2%.² The acute exacerbation of COPD occurs about 0.5 to 3.5 times per year, and is an important factor in COPD deaths.³

This long-term collaboration will fully leverage both parties' expertise and provide more effective treatment options for patients in China. The safety profile and clinical benefits of Broncho-Vaxom® have been proven by a large body of clinical evidence⁴. China 'Consensus of Management of Children with RRTI' strongly recommends bacterial lysates as a cost-effective prevention of RRTI in children.⁵

Josef Troxler, CEO of OM Pharma, commented: "Broncho-Vaxom® is one of OM Pharma's flagship products. The product has been used for a long time in clinical settings for the prevention of respiratory infections and immunological conditions. This highly synergistic collaboration between OM Pharma and AstraZeneca will improve the accessibility of Broncho-Vaxom®, accelerate the product's growth in the Chinese market, and further solidify OM Pharma's lead in the field of respiratory diseases and immunological therapies."

¹ Ye Qici, RRTI, The Journal of Practical Pediatrics, 1999, Vol. 14, No. 6: 361-362

² Zhong N, Wang C, Yao W, et al. Prevalence of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in China: a large, population- based survey [J]. Am J Respir Crit Care Med, 2007, 176 (8): 753-760. DOI: 10.1164/ rccm. 200612-1749OC.

³ Diagnosis and Treatment Expert Group on AECOPD, Chinese Expert Consensus on Diagnosis and Treatment of AECOPD (Updated in 2017), Int Respir, July 2017, Vol. 37, No.14:1041

⁴ Del-Rio-Navarro BE, Espinosa Rosales F., Flenady V, Sienra-Monge JJ. Immunostimulants for preventing respiratory tract infection in children. Cochrane Database Syst Rev 2006;4:CD004974.

Sequiera RB. Immunobiotherapy with Broncho-Vaxom® in the prevention of postoperative respiratory infections. Méd et Hyg 1980; 38:2752-2753.

Geiser G. Prevention of respiratory diseases in a large industrial enterprise: double blind study of Broncho-Vaxom®. Acta Therapeutica 1983; 9:289-303.

⁵ Children's Otolaryngology Committee of Pediatrician Branch of Chinese Medical Doctor Association, Consensus of Management of Children RRTI, Chinese Journal of Practical Pediatrics, 2017, Vol.32 (10) : 721-725

Michael Lai, General Manager of AstraZeneca China, said: “AstraZeneca has been deeply rooted in China for 27 years. Staying true to our patient-centric mission, we continue to focus our efforts on the therapeutic areas with the most urgent medical needs and on providing high quality medicines for patients. Respiratory & Immunology are key areas of focus for AstraZeneca China. We hope to broaden and deepen the market penetration of Broncho-Vaxom® to improve the health of more patients in need.”

This agreement marks yet another strategic collaboration with a global pharmaceutical company, demonstrating OM Pharma’s capacity to expand geographically. This further underlines OM Pharma’s ability to become a world-leading biopharmaceutical company focused on improving the lives of patients with respiratory and inflammatory diseases around the world.

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About OM Pharma

OM Pharma is a global Geneva-based biopharmaceutical company. It is a leader in the prevention of recurrent respiratory and urinary tract infections and is also active in the treatment of vascular diseases. It operates worldwide through a strong network of international partners and continues to invest into R&D to develop microbial derived immunotherapeutic products addressing acute and chronic immunological disorders resulting from infections and inflammation. OM Pharma is operating to highest Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) standards which rely on a high level of Biotech competencies and experienced teams. The company strives to help patients around the world to live better lives by allowing access to a better management of immunological imbalances. For more information, please visit: [Company website](#)

About Broncho-Vaxom®

Broncho-Vaxom® is an extract of different bacterial species used for the prevention of recurrent respiratory infections. It stimulates the immune system and the body’s natural defense against a wide spectrum of viral and bacterial respiratory pathogens. In 2010, Broncho-Vaxom® was approved by CDFA in China⁶. Broncho-Vaxom® is now approved in 65 countries around the world (for treating adults and children).⁷

⁶ Chinese Marketed Drugs Database, S20100063,
<https://www.drugfuture.com/cndrug/search.aspx?SearchTerm=%E6%B3%9B%E7%A6%8F%E8%88%92&DataFieldSelected=auto>
⁷ Derived from sales data by OM Pharma