

MEDIA RELEASE

VivaZome and La Trobe University enter new research collaboration to develop exosome therapeutics.

16 February 2021; Melbourne Australia: VivaZome Therapeutics Pty Ltd (“VivaZome”) and La Trobe University today announced that they have entered into a new collaborative research project focussed on developing novel exosome therapeutics.

Under the collaborative arrangement, VivaZome scientists will work alongside members of Professor Andrew Hill’s laboratory in the La Trobe Institute for Molecular Science (LIMS). Professor Hill is one of the world’s pre-eminent exosome researchers, and a member of the La Trobe Research Centre for Extracellular Vesicles, with its extensive suite of specialised technology and high-level expertise.

This new agreement builds on the work done by VivaZome and La Trobe as part of the successfully completed CRC-P “Enabling Exosome Therapy: Developing an Advanced Manufacturing Process”. La Trobe played a key role in the project through development of functional assays and the quantitative and qualitative assessment of exosome fractions from multiple cell types and multiple process iterations. Critically, the University’s ability to do deep analysis of miRNA content enabled VivaZome to link exosome content to biological activity and so to potential clinical application.

VivaZome’s Chief Executive Officer, Dr David Haylock, stated “VivaZome is delighted to enter in to this new, post-CRC-P partnership with La Trobe and to extend its productive relationship with Professor Hill and his research team. As VivaZome broadens its portfolio of activity to encompass ischaemia, fibrotic diseases and neurological disorders, La Trobe’s world-class capability will provide a strong analytical platform for the development of VivaZome products.”

Professor Hill, Associate Provost of Research and Industry Engagement at La Trobe commented “It is exciting to extend our CRC-Project into a new research relationship and to use our expertise in exosome analytics and characterisations to contribute to the success of VivaZome’s development program. We look forward to working with VivaZome and their national and international collaborators.”

Dr Megan Fisher, La Trobe Pro Vice-Chancellor of Industry Engagement, said the University was committed to making a difference to industry. “We are pleased that VivaZome has based their biotechnology business within our Research and Innovation Precinct where we continue to partner with them on their ground-breaking programs. We also value the willingness of VivaZome to share their first-hand experience of commercialising biomedical research with our researchers and students.”

For further information, contact:

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About VivaZome Therapeutics Pty Ltd

VivaZome Therapeutics Pty Ltd (ABN 59 602 230 964) is a privately-held Australian biotech company, with headquarters at the La Trobe University Technology Enterprise Centre. VivaZome was formed to develop and commercialise exosome-based therapies for debilitating and/or life-threatening disorders, with an initial focus on ischaemia, fibrotic disease and neurological disorders.

VivaZome is developing new technologies and generating intellectual property and proprietary materials that are applicable generically to exosome therapies. They will underpin the Company's development of specific exosome types for its target indications.

The VivaZome team has extensive expertise in the development and commercialisation of biological therapies, together with a wide network of expert contacts in the Australian and global biotech community.

VivaZome acknowledges the support of the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources through the CRC-P program, and the work of its CRC-P partners, La Trobe University and SeerPharma Pty Ltd.

For more information, please visit www.vivazome.com.

About La Trobe University

La Trobe has been one of Australia's leading universities. The Times Higher Education World University Rankings place La Trobe in the top 250 universities. Featured in the top 400 of all three major world university rankings, La Trobe has demonstrated its global impact in the latest Times Higher Education Impact Rankings, placing fourth in the world, third in Australia and first in Victoria for overall contribution to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ranking first in the world for gender equality and second for its contribution to health and well-being.

La Trobe values collaboration and industry partnerships that make a difference to business, communities and the environment. Part of the University's mission is to encourage innovation, embrace research excellence and forge alliances with industry and community partners, including co-location of industry within the Research and Innovation Precinct of the University City of the Future.

The [Office of Industry Engagement](#) works with industry partners and researchers to help solve industry problems and transform technologies and discoveries into products and services.

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