

PRESS RELEASE

Areterna Announces Veterinary mRNA Vaccine Development Service

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gaithersburg, MD (July 5th, 2024) — Areterna LLC, a company with a mission to democratize mRNA vaccine by supplying low-cost GMP raw materials, today announced plans to offer veterinary mRNA vaccine development service to its customers in the US and Europe. The success of COVID vaccines has validated mRNA as a therapeutic modality. There is a growing number of mRNA therapeutics entering clinical trials, from cancer vaccine to gene editing and protein replacement. However, not much has been reported for using mRNA vaccine for animal health. The lack of interest is largely due to the high cost of mRNA manufacturing.

Areterna's parent company, Synthgene, has been working with animal health companies in China for several years where Synthgene provided sequence design, mRNA manufacturing, LNP formulation and animal testing while the animal health partners provided registration phase testing and development. The joint effort has yielded several mRNA vaccine candidates, such as Rabies vaccine (RV), Feline calicivirus (FCV) vaccine, Feline infectious peritonitis virus (FIPV) vaccine, Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis virus (IBRV) vaccine, Bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) vaccine and Porcine epidemic diarrhea virus (PEDV) vaccine. These vaccine candidates are in registration phase development, and one is close to approval filing.

"We can make mRNA vaccine affordable since we supply low-cost, IP-free cap analogs," said May Guo, Chief Commercial Officer of Areterna. "The biggest cost component of mRNA manufacturing is cap analog. To reduce the mRNA cost, we have developed our own cap analogs and offer them at favorable price. In addition, we can modify the mRNA and LNP manufacturing process to control cost."

To support vaccine development, Synthgene has built several technology platforms, including mRNA sequence design, mRNA manufacturing, LNP screening and formulation, as well as BSL-3 lab for animal testing. "The beauty of mRNA vaccine is the fast development cycle, as we have witnessed in the development of COVID vaccine," added Guo, "Synthgene as an mRNA technology company can develop a vaccine candidate with supporting animal data in 3-4 months. We look forward to collaborating with animal health companies and bringing state-of-the-art care to companion and farm animals."

Areterna LLC

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About Areterna LLC:

Areterna LLC was founded in 2023 as a wholly owned subsidiary of Synthgene Biotechnology Co., Ltd. to serve customers in the US and Europe. Synthgene provides materials and services to support mRNA and oligonucleotide manufacturing. Founded in 2018 by a group of passionate nucleic acid chemists, the goal of the company is to debottleneck the raw material supply and develop innovative solutions to support customers in the industry. The company has a robust quality system and ISO9001 certification to support cGMP manufacturing of mRNA raw materials that include NTPs, modified NTPs and cap analogs. For the GMP raw materials, Drug Master Files have been filed with FDA. In addition, Synthgene offers analytical development service and mRNA-related impurity standards and detection kits, LNP screening service, IVT process development and IVT kits for mRNA research. For solid-phase DNA and RNA synthesis, Synthgene offers high quality phosphoramidites to support cGMP oligo manufacturing. With over 200 scientists in R&D and AI-assisted discovery platform, Synthgene will continue to bring new products to the market.

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