

## Ziphius Vaccines and UZ Ghent Establish Unique Collaboration for GMP Manufacturing of saRNA-Based Vaccines

- First EU public-private collaboration for production of saRNA-based vaccines
- Supports Belgium's strategy to improve future Pandemic Preparedness

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Ziphius Vaccines (the "Company" or "Ziphius"), a biopharmaceutical company developing vaccines and therapeutics based on self-amplifying RNA (saRNA), and UZ Ghent today announce that they have entered a public-private collaboration for the scale up and manufacturing of prophylactic self-amplifying RNA vaccines based on GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) standards.

The collaboration is a first in Europe where a university hospital produces GMP grade prophylactic saRNA vaccines for an industry partner. The partnership fits the Belgian government's R&D Biopharma initiative where collaboration and coordination are encouraged to accelerate Belgium's involvement in selected innovative platforms such as mRNA. Via this collaboration Ziphius and UZ Ghent aim to contribute to strengthening Belgium's position as a leading global biopharma hub and invest in preparedness for future disease threats (Pandemic Preparedness).

Ziphius' self-amplifying RNA and carrier technology platform is designed to enable efficient, versatile, and rapid responses to health threats. The multi-antigenic platform allows to code for different proteins of interest simultaneously along with a prolonged expression at lower doses and thereby reducing side effects.

Based on positive data published in *Molecular Therapy*<sup>1</sup>, the platform is being leveraged to rapidly expand the Company's pipeline and move forward multiple development programs, including prophylactic vaccines against infectious diseases and gene supplementation therapies for the treatment of rare genetic disorders.

**Prof. dr. Bart Vandekerckhove, Director of GMP Unit Cell Therapy, commenting on today's announcement, stated:** *"As Covid-19 has hit the healthcare sector hard, we think it is important to facilitate studies for potentially groundbreaking vaccines. In this way, we are laying the groundwork to make these protective vaccines available to a broad group of people."*

*"This public-private partnership is an example of how we can create value by working together. We strive for greater speed and excellence through the lab-to-patient journey and this with a better product", said Chris Cardon, CEO of Ziphius Vaccines. "Being prepared for the future pandemic is not only the Government's but also our responsibility."*

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.cell.com/molecular-therapy-family/molecular-therapy/fulltext/S1525-0016\(22\)00243-X](https://www.cell.com/molecular-therapy-family/molecular-therapy/fulltext/S1525-0016(22)00243-X)

## **About Ziphius Vaccines**

Ziphius Vaccines is a biotechnology company focused on the development of self-amplifying RNA-based (saRNA) vaccines and therapeutics. Its powerful saRNA and carrier technology platform is designed to allow for a higher and prolonged protein expression at lower doses with reduced toxicity. Based on this platform, the Company has a broad pipeline of vaccines for the prevention of infectious diseases and therapies for the treatment of rare genetic disorders. Based in Ghent, Belgium, Ziphius' team consists of 50 highly skilled experts and is backed by leading academics and knowledge institutes.

For more information, visit [www.ziphius.org](http://www.ziphius.org), and follow us on [LinkedIn](#).

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