

[Press Release]

LSK Global PS Supports International Vaccine Institute (IVI) Clinical Trials of COVID-19 Vaccine in South Korea

- **Contracted by IVI as CRO to conduct phase 1/2 trial of INOVIO's COVID-19 vaccine candidate (INO-4800)**
- **Selected for its vast experience in vaccine clinical trials and expertise at the global and local levels**

[July 13, 2020] LSK Global Pharma Services Co., Ltd. (LSK Global PS), a leading contract research organization (CRO) in Korea, announced that it has formed a partnership with the International Vaccine Institute (IVI) to support clinical trials for a COVID-19 vaccine on June 17, 2020.

The phase 1/2 clinical trial will involve INO-4800, a COVID-19 vaccine candidate currently being developed by INOVIO and the first vaccine that has been approved for clinical trials in Korea.

It is believed that a vaccine will provide a long-term solution to control the COVID-19 pandemic, and the call for a vaccine is growing amid the prolonged crisis which has continued for more than half a year.

While it usually takes about a decade for a vaccine to be successfully developed and distributed, many organizations have teamed up to accelerate development of a COVID-19 vaccine. The phase 1/2 clinical trial of INO-4800, funded by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) via INOVIO, will be led by IVI, Seoul National University Hospital and SNU Bundang Hospital and is supported by the Korea National Institute of Health for laboratory analysis.

IVI developed plans for clinical trials in Korea and quickly obtained approval from the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety and local Ethics Committees and has worked with SNU Hospital and SNU Bundang Hospital to begin the clinical trials as quickly as possible. As the CRO, LSK Global PS will be responsible for general clinical operations of the trial, including project management, monitoring, data management and pharmacovigilance activities.

LSK Global PS was recognized for its rich experience in clinical trials of vaccines as well as its contributions as a leading CRO to the success of large-scale global clinical trials and its large, highly competent and well-trained workforce that is certified to conduct global clinical trials.

"We are pleased to begin this clinical trial following the selection of LSK Global PS and taking the next steps toward the development of a COVID-19 vaccine, which has been eagerly awaited by people across the world," said Dr. Jerome H. Kim, Director General of IVI. "We believe that the clinical trial will be conducted quickly and accurately, bringing together top experts from different fields."

Young-Jack Lee, the president of LSK Global PS said, "We are honored to conduct the first approved clinical trial of a COVID-19 vaccine in Korea and play our role as a leading CRO in addressing the growing expectations for a COVID-19 vaccine," adding, "We remain committed to successfully completing clinical trials with the extensive experience and capabilities we have built through more than 130 global clinical trials including various trials of vaccines."

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About LSK Global Pharma Services Co., Ltd.

LSK Global Pharma Service Co., Ltd. (<http://www.lskglobal.com/>), established in 2000 in Korea, is the nation's largest integrated contract research organization (CRO) that has provided therapeutic area-specific services across oncology, cardiovascular disease and endocrinology.

LSK Global PS is a full-service CRO encompassing all of the major areas of clinical research, including clinical trials from phase I to IV, investigator-led clinical studies, PMS (post-marketing surveillance) studies, safety studies and observational studies. In addition, it provides consulting services for new drug development, regulatory affairs, study start-up, medical writing and research, clinical operation, project management, data management, statistical analysis, pharmacovigilance (PV), epidemiological research, and quality assurance.

LSK Global PS has conducted 1,153 clinical studies, including 134 global clinical studies since its foundation (as of December 2019). It became the first Korean CRO to win a contract for an FIH (a first-in-human) study from a multinational pharmaceutical company, an achievement that was especially meaningful because LSK Global PS was competing against large global CROs to win this contract.

In March 2017, LSK Global PS became the first Korean CRO which acquired the 'ISO (International Organization for Standardization) 9001:2015' certification for Quality Management Systems in the entire areas of services relevant with clinical trials. In December 2019, it became the first Korean CRO to acquire the 'ISO 37001' certification for Anti-Bribery Management Systems.

In February 2019, LSK Global PS established LSK NRDO, a company specializing in drug development based on the NRDO (No Research Development Only) model to build up a

proactive new drug pipeline. In May 2019, it also became the first Korean CRO to establish a PV branch office in Europe.

About the International Vaccine Institute (IVI)

The International Vaccine Institute (IVI) is a nonprofit inter-governmental organization established in 1997 at the initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Headquartered in Seoul, South Korea, IVI was the first international organization hosted by Korea. IVI has 35 signatory countries and the World Health Organization (WHO) on its treaty, including Korea, Sweden and India as state funders. Our mandate is to make vaccines available and accessible for the world's most vulnerable people. We focus on infectious diseases of global health importance such as cholera, typhoid, shigella, salmonella, schistosomiasis, Group A Strep, Hepatitis A, HPV, TB, HIV, MERS, COVID-19, as well as antimicrobial resistance. For more information, please visit www.ivi.int.