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邁博藥業
Mabpharm Limited
迈博药业有限公司

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 2181)

VOLUNTARY ANNOUNCEMENT
PATENT APPLICATION FOR THE INVENTION OF CMAB020 SUBMITTED
TO THE CHINA NATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION
AND
EXCLUSIVE LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH SORRENTO THERAPEUTICS, INC.
FOR CMAB020

This announcement is made by Mabpharm Limited (the “**Company**”, together with its subsidiaries, the “**Group**”), on a voluntary basis to inform shareholders and potential investors of the Company about the latest business updates of the Group.

PATENT APPLICATION FOR THE INVENTION OF CMAB020

The board of directors of the Company (the “**Board**”) is pleased to announce that the Company has submitted a patent application for the invention of a recombinant bispecific fusion protein to China National Intellectual Property Administration on March 23, 2020 (Application No.: 202010208906.8/PCT No.: PCT/CN2020/080859) (the “**CMAB020**”). CMAB020 is expected to be used for the prevention and treatment of SARS-CoV/-2 (SARS-CoV and SARS-CoV-2) infections and SARS/COVID-19 diseases (pneumonia caused by SARS-CoV/-2). The Company has completed the lab-scale preparation and in vitro function evaluation of CMAB020, and will commence the in vivo experiment for further technical evaluation.

ABOUT CMAB020

CMAB020, a proprietary bispecific fusion protein, is expected to prevent and treat SARS-CoV/-2 (SARS-CoV and SARS-CoV-2) infections and SARS/COVID-19 diseases. CMAB020 is designed with two functional arms: (1) one of the arms is a fully human monoclonal antibody (“**Ab**”) targeting the spike protein of SARS-CoV, SARS CoV-2 and some other SARS-like CoV with high affinity; and (2) the other arm is a truncated angiotensin converting enzyme 2 (“**ACE2**”) protein. The binding epitopes of the Ab and ACE2 to the spike protein are different. The truncated ACE2 preserves the enzyme activity in converting angiotensin II to angiotensin 1-7, resulting in reduced vasoconstriction and increased blood flow to the infected lung tissue. It could potentially confer organ protection and lessen severe acute respiratory distress syndrome caused by COVID-19. In addition, CMAB020 could potentially antagonize the binding of receptor binding domain with CD147 and mitigate lung inflammation and cytokine storm.

While CMAB020’s primary functionality is to interfere with the viral infection cycle, our current research and development results suggest that the fusion protein with an active ACE2 enzyme may have therapeutic potential for late-stage COVID-19 infections. Such dual functionality of the fusion protein may have a synergistic effect and CMAB020 could help generate passive immunity and shield people, in particular healthcare workers, elderlies and patients with compromised immune systems, from coronavirus such as SARS-CoV/-2.

CMAB020 has been engineered to have a prolonged half-life in the human blood circulation, which may allow it to be used prophylactically to confer short-term and durable passive immunity (with repeated dosages) to those that are regularly exposed to the coronaviruses (such as healthcare workers) and those who are more vulnerable to coronavirus (such as elderly, patients with hypertension and immune-compromised patients).

Our current research and development results illustrate that the bispecific fusion protein could bind with spike protein with much tighter affinity as compared to that of the individual Ab or ACE2 protein.

Our employees are also working relentlessly to generate a stable and high yield CHO (Chinese Hamster Ovary) manufacturing cell line and produce bispecific fusion protein with a production line that meets the cGMP production requirements. Our large scale state-of-the-art cGMP facilities in Taizhou and Shanghai are dedicated to producing therapeutic antibodies and protein. These facilities are equipped with large volume “fill-and-finish” capability to meet the potential demand on CMAB020 once it has obtained requisite regulatory approvals for commercialization.

EXCLUSIVE LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH SORRENTO THERAPEUTICS, INC. FOR CMAB020

On March 24, 2020, Mabpharm (HK) Limited, our wholly owned subsidiary, entered into an exclusive license agreement with Sorrento Therapeutics, Inc. (“**Sorrento**”), a company listed on NASDAQ in the United States (Nasdaq: SRNE), pursuant to which, we have granted Sorrento an exclusive license for the development and commercialization of CMAB020 in North America and Europe in perpetuity.

ABOUT SORRENTO

Sorrento is a clinical stage, antibody-centric, biopharmaceutical company developing new therapies to turn malignant cancers into manageable and possibly curable diseases. Sorrento has a wide array of innovative and synergistic assets, such as a broad fully human antibody library (“**G-MAB™**”), clinical stage chimeric antigen receptor-T cells (“**CAR-T**”), intracellular targeting antibodies (“**iTAbs**”), antibody-drug conjugates (“**ADC**”), and an oncolytic virus (“**Sephrehvir®**”).

Cautionary Statement required by Rule 18A.05 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited: We cannot guarantee that we will be able to obtain approval, develop or ultimately market, CMAB020 successfully. Shareholders and potential investors of the Company are advised to exercise due care when dealing in the shares of the Company.

By order of the Board
Mabpharm Limited
Jiao Shuge
Chairman

Hong Kong, March 24, 2020

As at the date of this announcement, the Board of Directors comprises Dr. Qian Weizhu, Dr. Wang Hao, Mr. Li Yunfeng and Dr. Li Jing as executive Directors; Mr. Jiao Shuge and Mr. Guo Jianjun as non-executive Directors; and Mr. Guo Liangzhong, Dr. Zhang Yanyun and Dr. Liu Linqing as independent non-executive Directors.